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april 19 10-1y

From the Raleigh Sentinel.

The "Constitutional Convention," (So-Called.)

MONDAY, Feb. 17, 1868.

The Convention was called to order at 10 o'clock.

Prayer by the Rev. Mr. Hudson, of the city.

The Journal of Saturday was read and approved.

At the suggestion of Mr. Abbott, the names of absentees, at the time of voting, hereafter, were ordered to be recorded.

RESOLUTIONS, ORDINANCES, &C.

By Mr. Abbott: An ordinance in reference to freight on the Wilmington and Weldon and North Carolina Railroads.—Referred.

CALENDAR.

Mr. Rich called up his ordinance, reported by the Committee, establishing an Immigration Agency in New York.

Mr. Rich moved to amend by inserting in line 7, after "years," the words "under the direction of the Bureau of Statistics and Immigration."

Mr. McDonald, of Chatham, moved to strike out "$2,500" (salary) and insert "$2,000."

Mr. Rich objected to it.

Mr. McDonald then proceeded to advocate his amendment.

Mr. Congleton objected to the whole matter.

Mr. Ashley favored the ordinance as amended by Mr. Rich, and a salary of $2,500 per annum for the agent.

The question recurring upon Mr. McDonald's amendment, he called for the yeas and nays.

The call was sustained and the vote stood—yeas 64, nays 29.

Mr. McDonald moved to further amend by striking out in the 4th line, after the word "State," and inserting "the people shall elect."

Mr. Forkner moved to postpone the matter indefinitely.

Mr. Abbott thought the matter too important to be so lightly dealt with. He wished it to be postponed to a day certain.

Mr. Jones, of Washington, was speaking upon the subject, when the Chair announced that the hour had arrived to consider the

SPECIAL ORDER,

viz: The report of the Committee on Corporations, other than Municipal.

The question recurred upon Mr. Tourgee's substitute offered several days ago, when this report was considered, for sections 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9 and 10 to come in as section 4, to wit: "That no Bank of issue shall be established under the authority of this State."

Mr. Jones, of Washington, spoke in opposition to the proposed substitute.

Mr. Welker supported Mr. Tourgee's substitute, and gave his reasons at some length for so doing.

By request of Mr. Rodman, the question was divided, and the Convention decided to strike out; when

Mr. Rodman said if the amendment of Mr. Tourgee prevailed, and the national currency was withdrawn, only the Bank notes of other States could circulate here. Therefore he was opposed to the amendment.

The substitute was put to a vote and lost.

Mr. Welker moved to strike out section 11, and refer it to the Committee on Municipal Corporations. Lost.

Messrs. Jones, of Washington, and Heaton, thought the section in its proper place.

The section, as reported by the committee, was then adopted.

By consent, Mr. Abbott introduced a bill to revive the charter of the Deep River and Coalfields Railroad, with amendments.—Referred.

Also, Mr. Watts offered an ordinance to prohibit the collection of debts, contracted for purchase of slaves or hire of slaves, or in aid of the rebellion. Ordered to be printed.

The minority report of the Committee on Homesteads was called up, by motion of its Chairman, Mr. Jones, of Caldwell, and considered for the second time.

Mr. Jones said that the committee had concluded to report a bill prospective in its character, as a retrospective bill would amount to repudiation and tend to demolish good faith between man and man, &c.

Mr. Morton was opposed to the report, and moved to postpone the consideration of it until to-morrow week.

Mr. Morton amended his motion, at the suggestion of several gentlemen, so as to postpone until Thursday next. Carried.

Mr. McDonald, of Chatham, called up his ordinance in favor of H. B. Guthrie, Sheriff of Orange county, as he wished it referred to a select committee, appointed by the Chair. Agreed to.

Mr. Watts called up his ordinance, viz:

"That no trustee or mortgagee, in any mortgage or deed in trust made to secure debts contracted prior to May 1st, 1865, shall sell the property conveyed to him by such deed before the 1st of July, 1868, or the adoption of the Constitution, which this Convention has met to form, whichever may first happen, except by consent of the grantor in such deed, or unless the property conveyed by said deed (if it be land) shall bring at the sale the sum at which it was assessed for taxation in the year 1860."

Mr. Jones, of Washington, said that this amounted to nothing more or less than repudiation. He characterized it as being monstrous, and entered into quite a lengthy argument in opposition to the ordinance.

Harris, of Wake, (negro), made a speech in favor of it, and, as far as repudiation is concerned, scouted the very idea of it. He contended that the ordinance did not contain an iota of it in its provisions.

Mr. May said that they were called a Constitutional Convention, but, upon reviewing the work accomplished, it would seem that it was an improper term. Weeks had rolled around and nothing done, and almost nothing considered, but things of purely a legislative character. If things were to go on this way, the session would be protracted to an extent unheard of. He thought this subject foreign to the legitimate business of the Convention and he favored the voting down of all such propositions, until the proper business of this Convention has been accomplished.

Mr. Jones, of Caldwell, moved to amend as follows: "But the Trustee shall take measures to prevent the waste of the property, and, if in houses and lands, control the rents of the same, so as to apply to the payment of the interest on the debt secured by the trust."

Mr. Watts advocated the measure at some length.

Mr. Jones withdrew his amendment.

Mr. Forkner moved to postpone until the adoption of the Constitution.

Mr. Morton called the yeas and nays, and, the roll being called, resulted—yeas 54, nays 38.

Mr. Jones, of Washington, a resolution that this Convention will not entertain any proposition of merely a legislative character, after the hour of 11 o'clock, each day, until the reports of the committees appointed to report matters locking to the formation of a Constitution shall be considered and a Constitution formed.

Mr. Jones moved to suspend the rules and adopt at once.

The rules were suspended, when

Mr. Welker moved to lay it on the table.

Mr. Jones demanded the yeas and nays. The call was sustained and resulted—yeas 36, nays 53.

Mr. Watts offered an amendment to the resolution, that "no member shall speak more than ten minutes upon any question except upon reports of standing committees."

Mr. Abbott moved to lay the amendment on the table. Carried.

Mr. Jones then moved to adopt the resolution.

Mr. Rodman moved to amend, by saying "except when there is no other business before the Convention."

The yeas and nays were called upon this amendment, and the vote stood: yeas 53, nays 45.

The resolution, as amended, was adopted.

By consent, Mr. Abbott introduced the following resolution:

"That the contingent expenses of this Convention, including those for labor, be not paid until audited by the Committee on contingent expenses and vouched for by the President and Secretary."

The rules were suspended and the resolution adopted.

Mr. King, of Lenoir, also by permission, an ordinance concerning the qualification of widows in administering on estates.—Lies over.

The Chair announced the following Committee on the case of H. B. Guthrie, Sheriff of Orange, viz: Messrs. McDonald, of Chatham, King, of Lenoir, McCubbins, Nicholson and Smith.

On motion, the House adjourned until 7½ o'clock this evening.

NIGHT SESSION.

MONDAY, Feb. 17, 1868.

The Convention was called to order according to adjournment, at 7½ o'clock.

By Hayes, of Halifax, (negro): A resolution that the servants employed by the Convention be paid $2 per day. On motion the rules were suspended.

Mr. Hodnett wished to know who the servants were, and their number. He said that the Doorkeepers were there to do the necessary work. He was opposed to such unnecessary extravagance.

The resolution was then referred to the committee on Contingent Expenses.

Mr. Forkner called up his resolution in regard to raising a committee to report a day when, in their opinion, this Convention should adjourn *sine die*.

The rules were suspended and the resolution adopted.

On motion of Mr. Abbott, the Bill of Rights was taken up and considered on its third reading.

The Clerk proceeded to read the Bill, when

Mr. Heaton said that the whole thing was out of order. The committee on Engrossment should have reported the bill as being correctly engrossed. Several errors were in it that should be corrected. This was too important a matter to be hurried over in this way, and besides, an example of system and regularity should be set; and therefore it should now go to the committee on Engrossment for correction, and be taken up the first thing in the morning.—Mr. Heaton moved to postpone, and make it the special order for to-morrow at 10 o'clock.

Mr. King, of Lenoir, said the Suffrage question was the special order for to-morrow; he thought the errors should be corrected now and the bill be proceeded with.

Mr. Heaton withdrew his motion to postpone, in order to allow Mr. Rodman to amend section 17, by adding to it the following: "And this remedy shall not be suspended except in time of war, insurrection or invasion;" and to strike out the 20th section.

Mr. Rodman gave his reasons for offering his amendment. He thought there were times when the safety of the government and people required that this writ of *habeas corpus* should be suspended. It was a vain thing to put it in the Constitution that this writ shall never be suspended.—In times of war, in the clash of arms this provision would not be regarded. It was an old and true saying, that "among arms laws are silent." He advocated his amendment at some length.

Mr. King, of Lenoir, said that North Carolina could not go to war with any power. The General Government alone could do that, and the Constitution of the United States provided that the writ could be suspended when the necessities of the country required it. He was opposed to putting such a thing in the Constitution of North Carolina as allowing that writ to be suspended. He alluded to some cases that happened during the war, and closed by saying that, according to Mr. Rodman's arguments, North Carolina was an independent power, and could go to war with the United States or any other country.

Mr. Rodman replied, substantially repeating his former argument, and citing instances that might occur, in times of an invasion of the State by foreign forces, aided and abetted by traitors at home, when Congress was not in session, &c.

Mr. King responded in quite a lengthy argument in support of his position in the matter.

Mr. Welker said that it was almost the only bright spot in the record of the Confederate Congress, that it was with the utmost difficulty that they could be got to suspend this writ, even for a short time.—He thought gentlemen should recollect Salisbury when they were casting their votes upon this measure. He opposed Mr. Rodman's amendment.

Mr. Abbott wished to form a government, free, republican and just in its provisions, yet they should form one strong enough to sustain and protect itself. He supported Mr. Rodman's amendment

Mr. Nicholson offered the following substitute for the 17th section: "Every person, restrained of his liberty, shall be entitled to the privileges of the writ of *habeas corpus* or other remedy to inquire into the lawfulness thereof, and such writ, or such remedy, ought not to be denied or delayed."

Mr. Jones, of Washington, thought that the people of this State, with their experience in the past, should be very jealous, indeed, of incorporating in their Constitution such a thing as allowing the suspension of this writ. He favored the sections, as reported by the Committee.

Mr. Nicholson withdrew his substitute.

The question recurred upon Mr. Rodman's amendment. Mr. King, of Lenoir, called for the yeas and nays, and, the call being sustained, the vote resulted, yeas 6, nays 71.

Mr. Congleton moved to amend the 6th section by striking out all before the word "State," in the 4th line. His object was to have the assumption of the old debt left with the Legislature. It had been contracted by the Legislature and should be assumed by it. But, during his remarks, it leaked out that he thought it was a dangerous thing for the *Republican party* to handle in this Convention, and the assumption of the old debt would detract from the strength of the *party*; and, therefore, he thought the policy of "hands off" would at present be most politic. He further declared that should they fail, (*i. e.* his party,) he would leave the State, (oh! dear!) for with the men of the so-called Conservative party he could not and would not affiliate. (Alas! and *luck*-a-day!)

Hayes, of Halifax, (negro,) interrupted the Speaker, asking him several questions, regarding the effects of repudiation, and said if this Convention should pass any measure tending that way, we might as well "*dejourn to your siner dier.*"

Mr. Welker favored Mr. Congleton's amendment, and

Mr. Congleton again *solemnly warned* the Convention pledging the faith of the State against repudiation.

Mr. Heaton spoke in defence of the section as it stood. He took the same ground as he did some days ago in opposition to anything looking to the repudiation of the State debt contracted before and since the war.

Mr. McDonald, of Chatham, said he would strike out the whole section, if he had the power. He concurred with the gentleman from Guilford, (Messrs. Tourgee and Welker.) *He* did not care if he *was* called a Repudiator; he thought it unjust that the people should be called on to assume a debt of $15,000,000, and called for the yeas and nays.

Galloway, (negro,) said that the gentleman from Chatham, (McDonald,) was continually insinuating that the debt of North Carolina was contracted for the purchase of slaves, but it was not so. That debt was sound now, every dollar of it. He hoped the gentleman would be allowed to have the yeas and nays, and he would see to what party the gentleman belonged, and how he stood. As for him, (Galloway, negro,) he would vote as every *honest* North Carolinian would vote.

Mr. King, of Lenoir, thought this matter should be left to the Legislature.

Harris, of Wake, (negro,) opposed the amendment, and favored the section as it stood.

The question recurred upon Mr. Congleton's amendment. The yeas and nays were called and resulted—yeas 10, nays 56.

On motion of Aydlott, the House adjourned until to-morrow 10 o'clock.

MORNING SESSION.

TUESDAY, Feb. 18, 1868.

The Convention was called to order at 10 o'clock.

Prayer by the Rev. Mr. Franklin, of the Convention.

Mr. Read presented a petition from Edward Shroyer, of Warren, for a divorce.—Referred.

Mr. King, of Lenoir, from the committee on Contingent Expenses, a report in favor of E. C. Bartlett, allowing him *per diem* for one day's attendance upon this Convention and mileage for 200 miles.—Adopted.

RESOLUTIONS, ORDINANCES, &C.

Mr. Morton, an ordinance in favor of repealing an act prohibiting the sale of spirituous liquors at Company Shops. Lies over.

According to a motion made and carried, the Bill of Rights was read for the third time, when

Mr. Watts, in section 6th, 5th line, moved to insert, after the word "pay," the words "or authorized the collections of." Carried.

Mr. Durham moved to strike out, in section 20, all after the word "restrain."

Mr. Abbott wished to know his reason for so amending.

Mr. Durham replied that these were days of bitter party strife, and if we leave the liberty of the press, as a matter for a Legislature to decide how far and in what way it shall be exercised, we leave the question entirely in the hands of the party that happens to be in the ascendancy. According to the section, as it stood, partisans could prescribe just how far a paper opposed to them in politics should reflect upon even their political acts and opinions. He protested against anything of this kind being incorporated in the Constitution.—There was no precedent for such a procedure.

Messrs. Abbott and Rodman opposed the amendment, on various grounds.

Mr. Durham said that it is a common law right to protect one's character against libel; and what was the necessity to make a statutory right in this particular, when such a measure left the great bulwark of liberty—the freedom of the press—liable to be tampered with by partizans that held the reins of political power in their hands? This was another step in the march of Radical innovation and military despotism, which was fast sweeping from existence every time-honored landmark and custom that the true people of this State love and venerate. He was opposed to leaving a Legislature, that would be swayed and controlled by party doctrines and prejudices, at liberty to prescribe what limit the press of the State should enjoy. If such a thing is incorporated in the Constitution the time will come when a free and full discussion, reflecting upon the acts of a party in power, will be denied to their opponents.

Mr. D. called for the yeas and nays. The call was sustained and the vote stood—yeas 24, nays 80.

In section 24 Mr. Durham moved to add the words "and without representation in Congress."

Mr. Heaton said at the time this Constitution was adopted representation would be allowed us.

Mr. Durham said the people had paid taxes without having such representation, and he wished the world to know that, though defenceless and unable to protect ourselves from this gross injustice, yet we protest against this outrage upon our liberties.

Mr. D. asked the yeas and nays, but they were refused.

The amendment was put to a vote and lost.

The section, as it stood, was adopted.

Mr. Abbott moved as a substitute for the 20th section, the following: "That the privileges of the writ of *habeas corpus* shall not be suspended." Carried.

Mr. Graham, of Orange, moved to amend section 24 by striking out the first paragraph and inserting: "As a well regulated Militia is necessary to the security of a free State, the right of the people to *keep* and bear arms shall not be infringed upon."

Mr. G. said he did not care whether it was adopted or not, but he wished to express his sentiments for he believed the *right* to *keep*, as well as to *bear*, arms sacred, and should not be violated.

After some debate a vote was taken and the amendment adopted.

Mr. Heaton moved that the bill be put on its final passage, and called for the yeas and nays.

The roll was called and resulted—yeas 87, nays 20.

The following delegates voted in the negative, viz: Messrs. Baker, Bradley, Congleton, Dowd, Durham, Etheridge, Graham, of Orange, Hare, Hodnett, Lennon, Long, Marler, McCubbins, Merritt, Murphy, Sanderlin, Taylor, Turner, Welker and Williams, of Sampson.

SPECIAL ORDER—SUFFRAGE.

The majority report and several minority reports accompanying it were read.

Mr. Pool, the Chairman, said that the committee had tried to conform to the requirements of Congress, and not to go one jot beyond the provisions of its acts.—He commenced his remarks by reviewing the several minority reports—particularly the one by Messrs. Durham and Graham, of Orange. He offered the usual radical incense and adulation at the altar of the "lately enfranchised," but did not favor a sweeping disfranchisement of all Southern men; most especially those who were Union men during the war. In regard to universal suffrage and eligibility to hold office, he thought that every male citizen born in the Union, or naturalized, had an inherent right to vote and hold office.

His declaration that he would support *female suffrage* whenever a reasonable number of them demand it, *elicited applause*.

He declared that prior to the Reconstruction Acts, it was impossible for a colored man to get justice in a Court House.

All such things as a property qualification to hold any office in the State had completely played out. He made what was designed to be some very touching allusions to the clemency of the General Government, in sparing the lives of the participants in the late rebellion, and also to the action of several Northern States in regard to negro suffrage. Ohio, New York, California, and some others, had caused the Republicans in this section to blush (black?) with shame, but he had strong hopes that the action of redeemed old North Carolina, in this matter, would have such a good effect upon them, that another election would tell a different tale. He agreed with the Conservatives that this was a State, but, unlike them, he did not think she had *any rights* at present in the Union. He continued his remarks for some time, contesting the minority reports and advocating that of the majority.

Mr. French, of Chowan, followed, as he was the author of one of the minority reports. He was for visiting wrath and destruction upon the heads of everybody, outside of the Republican party.

He was particularly hard upon the instigators of the rebellion, and those that do not shout for the Reconstruction acts, and who will not receive the most rabid and radical doctrine as gospel. He said he represented a black constituency, but a comely constituency—comely for their love of this government—comely for the humility with which they bear their new honors—and comely because of their forgiveness of past wrongs. He continued in this strain to quite a length, damning rebels and eulogizing the colored race, and the "truly loyal" generally.

Upon taking his seat, the House, on motion of Mr. Rodman, adjourned until this evening, 7½ o'clock.

MORNING SESSION.

WEDNESDAY, Feb. 19, 1868.

The Convention was called to order at 10 o'clock.

Prayer by Rev. Mr. Pritchard, of the city.

Mr. Abbott presented a communication from J. A. Richardson, of Bladen county.

Also a petition for divorce from Mrs. Rosa B. Quinlivion.

Mr. Rodman offered a petition from certain parties of a like character.

Mr. McDonald, of Chatham, also presented a petition of the same sort from certain other parties—all of which were appropriately referred.

Galloway (negro) presented a memorial signed by fifty citizens of New Hanover county.

Mr. Rodman submitted two reports from the committee on the Judiciary, to whom were referred the Hapnau and Overton petitions for divorce, recommending that the divorces be granted, and reporting ordinances to that effect.

The President, Mr. Cowles, vacated his chair and spoke in opposition to the passage of the ordinances accompanying the reports.

Mr. Jones, of Washington, contended that the acceptance of the reports necessarily carried the ordinances with it. He was speaking upon the matter when

Hood (negro), rose to a point of order, saying that according to the gentleman's own argument, the ordinance was adopted, and, therefore, not debatable.

Mr. Jones said he thought so, too, but as gentlemen seemed to doubt it, he was merely showing the hardship of the case of Mr. Overton.

Mr. Heaton said the Chair had only done as he had a right to do—divide the question, and make the adoption of the reports, and the adoption of the accompanying ordinances, two different questions.

The Chair said that that was so.

Mr. Jones read the various affidavits and proofs in relation to the Overton case.

Mr. Cowles felt it his duty to warn the Convention against legislation in these matters. The case was an aggravated one, but we had no time to investigate difficulties *in bawdy houses and family feuds*. He was *ashamed* that such a thing had been brought before the Convention. Not many ladies had been here, but if such a thing was discussed here, not one would grace this Hall with their presence.

Mr. Ashley said the hour of 11 o'clock having arrived, the special order should be taken up, and after some little discussion on points of order, it *was* taken up.

SECIAL ORDER—SUFFRAGE.

Mr. Watts claimed the floor and commenced his remarks by eulogizing the speeches of Messrs. Pool, Laflin, French, of Chowan, and McDonald, of Chatham.—He characterized the speech of Mr. Graham, of Orange, as being insincere. He read from the Conservative platform that portion in which it declares that they accepted the legitimate results of the war.—Mr. W. claimed that this was a tacit endorsement of and adherence to the Reconstruction acts, for they were the legitimate result of the war. In the 4th section of that platform it was declared that they (the Conservatives) would be willing to give all rights and privileges to the colored man consistent with the welfare of both races.—The Republican party held that it was right to do so now—and according to their own statement, it was only a question of time that divided them.

Mr. W. was particularly hard upon the institution of slavery. It had done all sorts of evil, and, above all, it dishonored God. The mission of the ministry, in this and other States, was to preach Christ crucified, and to tell men to search the Scriptures; and, if they had themselves read to any purpose, they must have known and felt the iniquity of the institution, but, if they had preached according to the dictates of their consciences, they would have been taken from their pulpits and thirty-nine lashes have been laid on their bare backs. The ministry were restrained. But now this incubus was gone. He (Mr. W.) felt like good old St. John, when transported to the third Heaven; "he felt relieved."—He expatiated upon the happy domestic scenes that would be witnessed throughout the breadth and length of this State, when the benign influence of Radical doctrines shall be thoroughly disseminated and fully accepted by the people, and concluded by extending a brotherly invitation to all the erring, to come into the fold of the Radical party, and bask for the rest of their lives under the bright and happy sunlight.

Hood (negro) next occupied the floor.—He took up the minority report of Messrs. Durham and Graham. He said his race had been enfranchised by the highest lawmaking power of the land. The question was not whether they should be enfranchised or not, but whether the right, already conferred, should be taken away or not. He said that they intended to maintain their right to the elective franchise, come weal or woe. I tell you, gentlemen, when you attempt to return a race of 70,000 voters and strong men to a slavery worse than their former condition, you attempt a simple impossibility. The war of races, so frequently alluded to, would not be between the black and white men, but it would come between the Conservative and Republican races of this country,—the Republican side numbering about 18,000,000 and the Conservatives about 14,000,000; and when the smaller number attempted the extermination of the larger, he had serious fears that they would have rather a hard time. He did not wonder that the Conservatives should have apprehensions in enfranchising the colored people, on account of the damning acts of cruelty and outrages perpetrated by them upon the negro class, and not only upon them but upon white Unionists.

Hood continued his harrangue for some time, and concluded by coming out in favor of not taking any steps to disfranchise anybody whatever. Those men Congress had disfranchised we have not any power to interfere with.

Mr. Rodman felt his position on this floor to be an exceptional one. He was a Confederate soldier during the war, but he claimed to be as good a Republican as any one on this floor. He thought it due to himself to explain the reasons that induced him to change his opinions. When the South consented, generally to the emancipation of the slaves, they tacitly consented, as a natural consequence, that those freed should have all the rights and privileges of the ballot box, &c. He was also opposed to the disfranchisement of anybody.

Mr. Congleton read a speech. He was for universal suffrage, and, on mature consideration, had fallen in with Mr. Pool's ideas on the subject.

Mr. Marler said that he did not wish to be one of those who took up the time of the Convention in letting off gas, thereby spending the people's money, especially in their present impoverished condition. But as this was a matter of great importance, in which every honest man, woman and child is deeply concerned, he asked the House to indulge him in a few remarks.—He wished to express his sentiments, and those of his constituency in regard to the matter of universal suffrage to the colored people. He hoped gentlemen would pause and reflect before they should declare that the Caucasian race in this State should not now, as in the past, be kept above that of the African. Shall not the descendants of those white men who poured out their blood to establish this government, rule over the destinies of the State? Or shall power be lodged in the hands of an ignorant, inferior race, aided and abetted by bold, bad men, who could get nothing at home, in order to seize the reins of power, control the government and institutions that our native whites and their children have been taxed to build up?

He was not prejudiced against the colored man. The people of this section have as little, and perhaps less prejudice against them than any other people on the face of the globe. But he was opposed to granting them suffrage; *first*, because he was fully convinced, as he thought every man who had given this subject any thought, must be, that the negro in his present ignorant condition, is incapable of exercising with discretion the right of suffrage; and it did seem to him, if no other reason could be assigned, that that of itself was sufficiently valid to exclude them from this great right.

Mr. M. next showed the moral impossibility of the negro's ability to qualify himself as a voter, having just emerged from a bondage that precluded the possibility of his having fitted himself, in any way, to exercise the right of voting in a proper and intelligent manner. True, there were some few, very few exceptions to this general rule, but we cannot discriminate; we must judge them as a class. As an average, there were not one in five hundred that could read or write.

He wished to know, using the language of another, "if these men, who are thus ignorant, were capable of exercising political franchises? Were they capable of self government? Could they be regarded as intelligent voters? Could they be regarded as independent voters? Could their judgments be relied upon?" He thought the response, from every fair-minded and intelligent man, must be *No*. Why, then, did gentlemen so strenuously contend for universal negro suffrage? Why did they wish to place the negro, in his present condition, on a political equality with the intelligent white men of this country? He thought the true answer to that was, because some white men have despaired of ever being able to command the respect and receive the support of the whites; therefore, they profess great love for the colored race and advocate universal negro suffrage and political equality, in order to secure the negro vote, regardless of the happiness and welfare of their own race and color!

Galloway, (negro,) said that the best blood in Brunswick county flowed in his veins, and, if he could do it, in justice to the African race, he would lance himself and let it out. He did not want social equality.

Mr. Ashley arose to challenge an assertion that slaves had been brought into this State by New England ships. He went on to give his authorities. The first importation had been made into Virginia, when the Mayflower was making her way across the ocean.

Harris, (negro,) would move to adjourn, with the understanding that *he* should have the floor to-night.

This was agreed to, and Harris, (negro,) made the motion, but Harris, (negro,) withdrew it, in order to allow Mr. Laflin to offer a report from the Committee on Redistricting the Congressional Districts.

On motion, it was made the special order for to-morrow at 10½ o'clock.

Harris, (negro,) renewed his motion to adjourn, which was carried.

NIGHT SESSION.

WEDNESDAY, Feb. 19, 1868.

The Convention was called to order according to adjournment, at 7½ o'clock.

The roll was called to ascertain whether there was a quorum present or not.

The Chair announced a quorum.

Mr. Abbott moved that the report of the committee on Immigration be taken from the table and made the special order for Monday next, at 10½ o'clock. Carried.

Mr. Ellis said that he had heard that the delegate from New Hanover (Galloway, negro) had said that there had been women in his (Catawba) county, during the war, hung up by their thumbs to make them tell where their husbands were. He wished to say that no such thing had been done.

The suffrage question was resumed.

Harris, of Wake (negro), had the floor, and spoke his old speech—consuming the time of the Convention for over on hour.

Galloway (negro), gave notice that to-morrow he would insist upon his substitue for the whole matter, and would call the previous question.

Hayes, of Halifax (negro), said "he did not think that the majority committee had no right to moot the question of removing the disabilities that Congress had imposed. They had been told here last night they might look out when the blue coats are gone." He regarded that as a sort of a declaration of war and he did not think men who did not love the government had no business with the ballot—they were not fit for it."

Mr. French, of Bladen, said that there was no use to discuss universal suffrage.—That was a foregone conclusion. But in regard to the *disfranchisement* of men, would it be safe, would it be policy, to entrust the ballot in the hands of men who had ground down the people of the State, under the iron heel of despotism? He was opposed to it. There were men who should be enfranchised—such men as W. W. Holden, Dockery, Pool, Sinclair, and others, "too tedious to mention." As for Mr. Graham's threats last night, he would hurl back such threats in their teeth, and, though they did not wish to come to blows, they were ready—and may God have mercy upon their souls! They would not get off so easy as they had done in the late war. He closed by giving notice that he intended to offer a substitute for the majority report to-morrow.

Galloway (negro), gave notice that he would introduce a resolution rescinding the general amnesty passed by the Legislature, but withdrew it on being told that a resolution to that effect was on the calendar.

The Chair announced the following persons as a committee on final adjournment, viz: Messrs. Forkner, Blume and Taylor.

On motion of Mr. Jones, of Washington, the Convention adjourned until to-morrow 10 o'clock.

MORNING SESSION.

THURSDAY, Feb. 20, 1868.

The President being absent, Mr. King, of Lenoir, was, on motion of Mr. Heaton, called to the chair.

Prayer by the Rev. J. W. Hood (negro.)

After prayer the President appeared and took his seat.

Mr. McDonald, of Chatham, submitted a report from the select committee to whom was referred the resolution in favor of Mr. B. Guthrie, Sheriff of Orange, accompanied by an ordinance allowing the said Sheriff $1,200, and a letter, from the Public Treasurer in regard to the matter.

Pending action upon the reported ordinance, Mr. Laflin said the hour had arrived to consider the special order, viz: The report of the committee on reconstructing the Congressional Districts.

Mr. Nicholson was allowed to introduce an ordinance respecting Homesteads, which was ordered to be printed.

The special order was then taken up.

The report was read.

Mr. Laflin said that the delegates would notice that there was only one change, viz: taking New Hanover from the 2d and transferring it to the 3d District. The reason for such change was, that New Hanover was the geographical outlet of the Cape Fear, and not until 1865 was it part of the 2d District.

Mr. Mann opposed the change for various reasons, and stated that the party was so well organized that there would be no difficulty in carrying the next election.

Hood (negro) said that it seemed to be the impression that they could not carry the election in their District without the aid of New Hanover, but that was not so; they had a sufficient majority to take care of themselves.

Mr Abbott said that the 3d District was the proper one for New Hanover, and went on to give various reasons for it. He said that the objections of Messrs. Mann and Hood were purely personal; not a single decent and good reason had been presented by them in opposition to the proposed change. Mr. A. said that he had privately assured the delegates, time and again, that no one in New Hanover intended to apply for the ballot in the 3d District; he would repeat the assurance now in public, and thought this was no place to drag up such subjects, yet the hints thrown out made it necessary to do so. He had no personal motives in advocating the change.

Mr. Mann disclaimed any personal motives in opposing the change.

Mr. Turner, of Harnett, objected to the change. He moved to lay the whole matter on the table.

Mr. Sweet said that, in order that the Convention could vote understandingly upon this question, it would be proper to ascertain whether it was not actually necessary to take some steps in regard to this matter, as the present system was the work of the Johnsonian Convention of 1865, and their authority in the matter might be doubted.

Mr. Turner withdrew his motion to table.

Hood (negro) moved to recommit the report to the committee, with instructions to report the districts as they were in 1865.

Mr. Abbott said he knew the gentleman did not *really* object to it, as New Hanover was a part of the 3d in 1865. It was merely clap-trap, &c.

Hood (negro) said he hoped the gentleman did not mean to reflect upon *his honesty*.

Mr. Abbott: Of course not.

Mr. Sweet opposed the recommitment, and hoped the report of the committee would be adopted.

Pending the discussion the Chair announced the special order, viz: The article on Suffrage.

Mr. Sweet moved to postpone it until the matter under discussion be disposed of. Carried.

Mr. Congleton next spoke in favor of the proposed change.

Mr. Mann hoped the motion to recommit would prevail.

The question recurred upon the motion to recommit, which was put to a vote and lost.

Mr. Morton moved to amend by striking "Stanly county" from the 3d and adding it to the 5th District.

Mr. Tourgee wished to know what the question was before the House.

The Chair replied that he supposed the gentleman ought to know.

Mr. Tourgee replied that he was not accustomed to ask questions when he knew the answers. He saw several gentlemen on the floor, urging different motions and amendments.

The President: Take your seats, gentlemen. I insist on order; take your seats, and I will recognize *somebody*.

A good deal of wrangling here ensued upon the various amendments and motions.

Mr. Pool moved to recommit to the committee, with instructions to re-district the districts upon the basis of the registered vote.

Mr. Pool's motion was put to a vote and lost.

Mr. Morton's amendment was then adopted.

The question recurred upon the report of the committee.

The yeas and nays were called, on motion of Mr. Heaton, and the vote stood, yeas 71, nays 28.

The Suffrage question was next resumed.

Mr. Abbott said that it had been his desire to address the Convention, very briefly, but his attention had been so largely occupied by this "divorce case," this morning, that he would yield the floor to any gentleman who might wish to speak on this subject.

No one evincing a desire to occupy the floor, Mr. Abbott commenced his speech by stating that voting had been exercised by all races and countries in some way or other. He cited the different manner in which the ballot was exercised by different nations in the earlier ages.

He believed that every one who had voluntarily borne arms against the government, was, under the Constitution, guilty of treason, and was deprived of his former rights. He alluded to this, for he had heard a good deal of talk of the rights of those now disfranchised. Those men had no rights, save only what the conquering party gave them. The rights of this State had been alienated by participation in the rebellion, and would not be restored until the Congress saw fit to give them back to them.

Mr. Graham, of Orange, interrupted him, asking the question: "Do you consider that the government of the United States had a right to punish the States of the South, as such, or must it proceed against individuals; if so, can any further or other punishment than that prescribed by the Constitution, be inflicted."

Mr. Abbott did not reply directly, but said that this would involve too great a discussion concerning the intent and meaning of the Constitution.

He did not think it was safe to admit to office or ballot those who are going to use them to the injury of the government, but to those who had come forward and frankly submitted to the results of the war. To all such men he would extend the right of suffrage; such men as Rodman, Longstreet, Orr and Holden. He had not alluded to negro suffrage and did not intend to, for that was a foregone conclusion.—The question was how to deal with men who would not accept the provisions of the acts of Congress, but who were hostile to it.

He would vote for the majority report with some modifications, and attaching a test oath for voting, in order to bar men who would only return to the exercise of that privilege to attempt another disruption in the government. When loose-mouthed declaimers like Vance learned to hush their threats, when the rebellious people and press ceased their revilings, and when they became unconditionally "loil," he would receive them and not before.

Mr. Congleton concurred with Mr. Abbott *in toto* (of course.)

Mr. May said, after a long and malevolent harangue, "if there was but one disloyal man in the State he would say disfranchise him; if 10,000 disfranchise them; if 15,000 disfranchise them. He believed that the spirit of rebellion still burned in the bosoms of those men, and he could not support any measure giving them rights forfeited by their crimes unless they repent."

He continued in the same bitter and violent strain, eliciting *applause* from the Radical portion of the House.

Mr. Ellis said he had noticed each and every delegate as they approached this subject, and they had made it a purely political measure, to build up party and not to enhance the happiness and welfare of the people. He was opposed to all measures vindictive in themselves and degrading to the people. The delegate, who had just taken his seat had, in the outset, declared that he intended to consider this matter in purely a *statesman-like view*, but it was not long before he drifted into petty partyism. The gentleman from Pasquotank had declared that the right of suffrage was inherent, and if that is so why are we here in Convention, legislating upon this subject? I have listened to threats of hanging men on account of their political sentiments. I have listened to the haranguing of different delegates on this floor for proscribing and hanging intelligent and virtuous gentlemen of our State, to the preferment of an ignorant and inferior race—all to build up a party vile, tyrannical, and oppressive to the liberties of the people.—There could be no disguise put upon the matter.

Mr. E. continued his remarks for some time, entering into a clear and searching argument bearing upon the case.

This speech called Galloway (negro) to his feet, who occupied the floor for some time.

Mr. Tourgee gave notice that he would introduce an ordinance to-morrow morning to stop the pay of members absenting themselves.

Mr. Pool gave notice that he would move the previous question upon the majority report of the Committee on Suffrage to-morrow morning.

Hood (negro) gave notice that he would introduce an ordinance lifting the fine upon Ministers and Justices of the Peace for celebrating the martial rites between colored and white people.

As there was not a quorum present the President declared the House adjourned until this evening, 7½ o'clock.

THE WILMINGTON JOURNAL

WILMINGTON, N. C.,

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 28, 1868.

The Impending Crisis.

The decisive action of President JOHNSON in removing Stanton, the second time from the War Department, and the equally decisive counter-action of the House of Representatives in preferring articles of impeachment, seem about to bring the impending crisis between the President and Congress, between the Constitution and Radicalism to a definite issue. We are satisfied that this sharp, well-defined issue will be of infinite service personally to the President and to the whole country. The party in power have frequently threatened impeachment, and a few of the more bold have vainly attempted to put these threats into execution, and if for so trivial a cause as the proper and just attempt of the President to rid himself of an objectionable Cabinet Minister, and to make a legal test of the constitutionality of the Tenure-of-Office Act, is seized upon by these mad partizans to make up the issue of impeachment, the President has good cause to rejoice that through party spleen his enemies have become so utterly reckless of all law, so blinded to the best interests of the country as to bring upon themselves the condemnation of every patriotic man. If the causeless impeachment of the President; if the dangers in which the Radical leaders have placed the country; if the attempted violent subversion of the Constitution and the imminent peril in which the peace of the Union is placed do not arouse the people of the North, nothing can do so, and there is no hope for the successful re-establishment of kindly feeling and reconciliation, no prospect for the speedy prosperity and restoration of the States, and no promise of the continuance of a republican form of government.

While the President has little to fear from the present wild fury of Congress, the assertion that General GRANT, nor the Commander of the Department of Washington, will obey no orders of the President which conflict with the Tenure-of-Office Act presents new and important difficulties, which, however, can only be temporary, and may, if carried into action, involve the General in insubordination which may cost him the balance of a reputation already greatly damaged by his being made the convenient tool of reckless and bad men.

In this connection, however, the promotion by brevet of General G. H. THOMAS to the rank of General GRANT becomes an important and perplexing feature in these singular complications. General THOMAS is one of the most popular officers of the army, and his taking charge of the Department of the Atlantic, with headquarters in Washington, as his promotion would seem to indicate, would certainly give a new departure to the conflict.

The appointment of Hon. THOS. EWING, of Ohio, the father-in-law of General SHERMAN, as the permanent Secretary of War becomes, also, a suggestive fact in the future bearing of these troubles.

The mere preferment of articles of impeachment by the House, or the trial by the Senate, need not and will not move the President in the even tenor of his course, but any attempt to remove him from office during the six months or more which will be consumed in his trial, may lead to new difficulties involving the peace of the country. We hardly think the President will quietly submit to his removal, and we are unprepared to believe the people of the North are prepared to remain quiet spectators of the murder of the Constitution and the death of the Union. There is much in store between now and the fourth of March, 1869, for the weal or woe of this Country.

Impeachment.

"The President, Vice-President, and all civil officers of the United States shall be removed from office, on impeachment for, and conviction of, treason, bribery, or other high crimes and misdemeanors."—*Art. 2, Sec. IV, Constitution.*

As the House of Representatives of the United States Congress seems determined to impeach the President, and the subject thus becomes the most absorbing of all the important issues of the day, we hope to be able to give information to those not conversant with the *modus operandi*, as to the manner prescribed by the Constitution, and by example in cases of impeachment heretofore tried by Congress. No President of the United States has ever before been impeached, but other civil officers have.

The impeachment must be tried by the Senate, the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court presiding. All the Senators are required to take an oath that they will "well and truly try and true deliverance make," &c. The prosecution will be conducted on the part of the House of Representatives by managers appointed from their own body, the President by counsel. It is said that Mr. JOHNSON has selected Attorney General STANBERY, Judge BLACK and CHAS. O'CONOR. The Constitution provides that punishment in cases of impeachment shall extend no further than removal from office and disqualification to hold any office under the Government. It requires two-thirds of the Senators *present* to concur in order to convict. The Senate sits as a court and with closed doors.

A frequent inquiry is made in regard to the suspension of the President from office pending the trial. The bill introduced for that purpose some days since by Mr. EDMONDS has not passed, and if not in direct conflict with the Constitution, cannot now become a law in time to have effect in this case. It will be seen, however, by the very clause of the Constitution quoted above, which makes the President liable to impeachment, declares that he can only be removed from office upon *conviction*. The distinction attempted to be drawn between removal and suspension is a mere subterfuge to advance partizan schemes. We have not only the fact that the Constitution provides no successor for the President in case of suspension, but also the further fact that the framers of the Constitution expressly voted down the proposition giving the power to Congress to suspend the Executive during trial. This very question was proposed, debated and decided adversely.

During the final deliberations and upon the third day before the adoption of the Constitution by the Convention, and when the section quoted at the beginning of this article was under consideration, Mr. RUTLEDGE, of South Carolina, moved to amend by adding, "that persons impeached be suspended from their office until they be tried and acquitted." He was seconded by Mr. GOUVERNEUR MORRIS, of New York. Mr. MADISON, with a wise statesmanship and prophetic wisdom, which would almost lead one to suppose his mind comprehended present troubles, is reported as opposing in these words: "The President is made too dependent already on the Legislature, by the power of one branch to try him, in consequence of an impeachment by the other. This immediate suspension will put him in the power of one branch only. They can, at any moment, in order to make way for the functions of another, more favorable to their views, vote a temporary removal of the existing Magistrate."

When the vote was called, Connecticut, South Carolina and Georgia only voted in the affirmative; New Hampshire, Massachusetts, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Delaware, Maryland, Virginia and North Carolina voting in the negative. Rhode Island was not represented in the Convention, and New York did not vote.

It will thus be seen that any attempt to suspend the President while the trial is progressing, will be entirely "outside of the Constitution," and will be little less than an open declaration of war against all law—a more palpable and dangerous violation of the Constitution than any yet made by this flagrant body. Should they suspend the President, *nolens volens*, and he submit to their action, the trial is practically decided against him, for the Senate may, for one cause or another, delay final action until the 4th of March, 1869, when the functions of his office would expire by limitation, and in the meantime Senator WADE would occupy the Executive Chair and the people would indeed be chained to the Radical Juggernaut, and crushed beneath its wheels.

It is impossible for those at a distance to surmise even where or when these difficulties will end, and can only pray that "God and the American People will make all right and save our Institutions."

Political Disabilities.

In reply to the inquiries of a friend we will state that under the Reconstruction Acts there is no mode of having the political disabilities, which they establish, removed, except by a vote of two-thirds of each House of Congress. The Fourteenth Amendment, commonly called the Howard Amendment, expressly reserves this power to Congress.

We have never understood by what semblance of right Congress undertook, even under its own iniquitous legislation, to relieve certain individuals of the political disabilities which these acts create, until the Howard Amendment became a part of the Constitution, for nowhere else does Congress give itself this power. This Amendment has not yet become a part of the Constitution, and until there is a Legislature elected and convened it cannot be adopted by North Carolina. But as it is a cheap and easy mode of purchasing the services of the disreputable tools it employs in the Southern States, that body will not confine its action by the self-imposed restraints of its own Reconstruction scheme.

Major General G. H. Thomas.

We learn, by mail, that Major General GEORGE H. THOMAS has telegraphed the President declining the nomination of Lieutenant General and General by brevet, stating that he had done nothing since the war to entitle him to such an honor.

He also telegraphed Acting Vice-President WADE asking that the Senate do not confirm the nomination.

The President may, and doubtless has, some object in thus bestowing his honors at random, and having them thrust back in his face, but we confess our inability to comprehend it. We shall not, however, pass judgment hastily, for the Executive of a country has never labored under so many disadvantages before, nor encompassed them so well. The heart of the people is with the President in his trials, and will support him triumphantly through them.

Edinburgh Review.

We have received the January number of the Edinburgh review. To say that this Quarterly sustains its reputation is commendation enough.

From a curious article, "Oysters, and the Oyster Fisheries," we extract what we have an especial reason for thinking will be novel to some, if not to many, readers.

"The hard muscular mass of white substance which the knife has severed is the *adductor muscle*, by means of which the animal is enabled to open and shut the valves; in front of this substance careful dissection will reveal a double membranous organ, semi-triangular in form, about the size of two small peas. This is the oyster's heart, which may be seen to pulsate," &c.

We once had a controversy with a member of the bar, and so insisted. He replied, "pooh! pooh! what you call the *muscle* is the *heart*, sir. Nonsense! I have been eating oysters all my life and never heard it called by any other name." We succumbed, of course, consoling ourself for our defeat by recalling a remark made by a disciple of Galen. "The most conceited man in the universe is a North Carolina lawyer with a Chapel Hill education."

"*A propos de bottes!*" Our New River oyster is, in our opinion, the finest in America, if not the world. We have tried the best in the New York market, and have eaten Nansemond River and Lynn Haven oysters at Norfolk and Suffolk, Virginia. We have no doubt upon this point. To the lover of this delicious bivalve we say, to make their acquaintance is well worth a trip to Wilmington.

"Beauty unadorned 's adorned the most." Whether this be true or not of feminine humanity, we cannot testify. Plump, white and dainty, the New River, however, needs no dressing. If the taste be cultivated or depraved—convertible terms—a pinch of salt may be added—"two drops of lemon-juice, *dubitante*."

Regulations for Lent.

For the information of those interested, we publish below the Regulations for Lent in the Diocese of Charleston.

The Right Rev. Bishop Lynch, D. D., has adopted (save a slight change in the Sixth Section) those of the Archdiocese of Baltimore.

The regulations for Lent in the Diocese of Charleston, are, therefore, the following:

Ash Wednesday, the first day of Lent, falls on the 26th of February.

1. All the faithful who have completed their twenty-first year, are, unless legitimately dispensed, bound to observe the Fast of Lent.
2. They are to make only one meal a day, excepting Sundays.
3. The meal allowed on fast days is not to be taken till about noon.
4. At that meal, if on any day permission should be granted for eating flesh, both flesh and fish are not to be used at the same time, even by way of seasoning.
5. A small refreshment commonly called *Collation*, is allowed in the evening; no general rule as to the quantity of food permitted at this time is or can be made. But the practice of the most regular Christian is, never to let it exceed the fourth part of an ordinary meal.
6. The quality of food allowed at a Collation is, in this diocese, bread, butter, cheese, all kinds of fruits, salads, vegetables and fish. Milk and eggs are allowed.
7. General usage has made it lawful to drink in the morning some warm liquid: as tea, coffee, or thin chocolate, made with water.
8. Necessity and custom have authorized the use of hog's lard instead of butter, in preparing fish, vegetables, &c.
9. The following persons are exempted from the obligations of fasting: Young persons under twenty-one years of age, the sick, nursing women, those who are obliged to do hard labor, all who, through weakness, cannot fast without great prejudice to their health.
10. By dispensation, the use of flesh meat will be allowed at any time on Sundays, and once a day on Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Saturdays, with the exception of Holy Thursday, and the second and last Saturdays of Lent.
11. Persons dispensed from the obligation of fasting, on account of tender or advanced age, or hard labor, are not bound by the restriction of using meat only at one meal on days on which its use is granted by dispensation. Others dispensed from the fast for other causes, as well as those who are obliged to fast, are permitted to use meat only at one meal.

By order of RT. REV. DR. LYNCH,
Bishop of Charleston.

T. BERMINGHAM, Vicar-General.
Charleston, S. C., February 10th, 1868.

For the Journal.

Repudiation.

Messrs. Editors: Allow me, through your paper, to examine the position assumed by "C. D," as thorough a repudiationist as has yet torn away the mask which conceals their true intentions, and revealed in all their naked deformity the principles by which their party is actuated.

His postulate is that the debts which threaten such serious calamity to himself in particular, and the country in general, had their origin in the negro; that upon the continuation of slavery they based their flimsy hopes of being able to cancel their indebtedness, no matter from what source it arose; and rearing these castles of air they allowed years to fly uncounted, interest to accumulate, the debt to increase, until war, with its ravages, impaired their country's resources, swept away the untenable basis of their hopes, and left them a wreck upon the shoal of misfortune, to be haunted by the spectre of their past improvidence. Truly his lamentable condition stirs the sympathies of our bosoms; but when we look on him as the representative of widows and orphans, as the champion of our soldiers who fought our battles, as the philanthropist that shoulders the misfortunes of others, we confess we have a profound regard for, and a due appreciation of, his many noble qualities. But after our zealous advocate for relief has as easily and as correctly proved, that the negroes and old debts are one and the same, as we by means of the Algebraic paralogism, that one and two are in all respects equal, he goes on to eloquently contrast the present with that flourishing past, when these debts were contracted, which now, as an incubus, weight down our progress and blight our happiness.—But after having told us of groaning granaries, of smoke-houses well filled, of banking facilities elsewhere unequalled, and "of opportunities for raising money, in fact too good," he forgets to explain how such a thing as an old debt ever existed; why these opportunities were not made available by debtors for discharging their indebtedness. But if our advocates for relief, by old debts, means debts contracted during the war, we will not be ungenerous enough to suppose that the representative of widows and the champion of soldiers, desires A's note from B for landed property to be repudiated, while A's deed of transfer to B is made valid. But happy are we to find that the vampires, who feed upon the blood of the oppressed debtor, are so few in number; rejoiced beyond measure to know that if ten men would save our State from threatened ruin, her safety would be insured. For, under the honor-fringed flag of relief, we find all widows and orphans of the land; all soldiers who battled in their country's cause, and all philanthropists whose tender souls take in another's woes; and here, too, we find the proselytized creditor, whose Christian qualities, no longer permitting him to be classified with Sherman's bummers, efface the stigma of his ever having been a creditor; thus leaving but a few greedy cormorants and filthy harpies, to scream around the carcass of "old debts," *alias* "dead niggers." But our complaisant C. D., having set out with an erroneous proposition *per necessitatem*, draws a wrong conclusion. His whole syllogism is *reductio ad absurdem*. In his eager haste to maim the helping hand of other days, he proposes to strike a death-blow to the commercial and agricultural interests of the country, that he may shield himself from the consequences of his own extravagances. He forgets the valiant soldier that gave his heroic life for the shredded banner, whose impoverished family to-day suffers for funds in the hands of these advocates of relief measures. He thinks not of the widow's heart, nor orphaned home, that would be gladdened by the simple interest of that "old debt," so repugnant to the advocates of relief measures. He will find that the property upon which these debts were based, has neither been swept away by war, nor made secure by dishonest legislation. Akin to the base spirit that trampled upon the sacred emblem of our cause and left our country open to the ravages of robbers, that wated her substance, is the spirit that would sap the life of public confidence and destroy the faith of national credit. And while we are warned of anarchical ruin, such as no country has witnessed, we would point our seer to the dangers of that legislation which fosters party interest at the expense of national justice. Rather let us avert these calamities with their seas of blood by preserving immaculate that honor to which we are indebted for our national credit, and to which we owe our national life.—Let creditor and debtor act frankly towards each other, and the fragments which are to enrich lawyers, sheriffs and clerks, husbanded by economy, increased by frugality, preserved by honesty, will remove afar off the impending destruction. There will then be no need of sable orators to furnish us with specimens of African eloquence at the grave of American honor.

SCOTT'S HILL.

For the Journal.

Called Meeting of the New Hanover County Agricultural Society, February 13th and 14th, 1868.

The Society met at Black River Chapel, on the above days, and proceeded to business. D. M. McMillan, Esq., in the Chair.

The Secretary being absent on the first day of the meeting, on motion of Dr. John R. Hawes, H. S. Averitt, Esq., was appointed Secretary *pro tem.*

Most of the committees being absent also, reports were deferred till to-morrow.

The list of speakers invited to address this meeting was next called over by the President, and addresses were delivered by the following gentlemen, on subjects previously assigned them by the Executive committee:

Mr. Edwin W. Kerr, on "Architectural Improvement and Household Conveniences," followed by remarks on the same subject by Rev. S. C. Alexander, and the President.

D. P. Bland, Esq., next addressed the Society on "Commercial Fertilizers," and the discussion was continued by extemporaneous remarks from Maj. Hines and the President.

During a recess which now took place, a handsome dinner was spread by the good people of the neighborhood, and it is believed there were few who did not show a willingness to join in this part of the proceedings.

After a short evening session the Society adjourned till to-morrow, when it was expected a much larger attendance would appear. It should be remarked that a Farmer's Club was organized here to-day for the neighborhood.

February 14.—The Society met to-day according to adjournment, and was opened with prayer by Rev. Colin Shaw. The attendance to-day was much better than yesterday, and no doubt many were still kept away by the wretched condition of the roads, and swollen streams.

Yesterday's proceedings were read and approved.

Reports of Committees were next in order.

No report was made by the Committee "on Correspondence," there being no member of that Committee present.

Dr. Hawes, from the Committee "*on Labor*," asked that the Committee be allowed till the next meeting to report, as they had not had sufficient time for full consultation, which request was granted.

From the Committee "on an Agricultural Fair," Maj. Hines reported verbally that the Committee had been considering the subject carefully, and their conclusion so far favored a fair next fall, but they were of the opinion that a formal report at this meeting would be premature—a greater number of facts bearing on the subject could be collected by the May meeting of the Society, as the crops would then be underway. He asked that the Committee be indulged till the regular meeting in May for a full report—granted.

On Agricultural Education and an Agricultural Library, Mr. Black stated that owing to the severe indisposition of an important member of the Committee they had not been able to combine the results of their investigations into such a report as they desired to submit to the Society, therefore he craved indulgence till the next meeting, which request was granted.

The same gentleman, from the Committee "On the Condition of Agriculture in New Hanover county, Commercial Fertilizers, and the Services of the State Geologist," begged indulgence till the next meeting, as the Committee had not had sufficient time for investigation and conference—said request was granted.

Messrs. Hall and Black reported that they had awarded Messrs. Atkinson & Shepperson's premium of fifty dollars on Cotton and Ground Peas respectively, to Dr. Satchwell and D. T. Durham, Esq., being the only competitors.

The address of Rev. S. C. Alexander, "On the Dignity of Labor," was next in order. The following are some of the impressions of this excellent address left on the memory of the writer: "One of the great ends for which man was created, is that he should be a laborer. He was constituted for this, physically, mentally and morally. Labor is a fixed law of man's nature and an element of his happiness. He was thus constituted in Eden, and not as a consequence of the fall. If labor is one of the ends for which man was created, and a primal law of his nature, it is highly praiseworthy, honorable and dignified; and to disregard this end and law of his nature is to set God at defiance. Honest labor is honorable and dignified, for the highest of all reasons, God has commanded it. He argued that nature's plan is the small farm, well cultivated, with the garden as its type. Adam was placed in a garden as his sphere of operations—such was his farm, and God planned it. We should make our farms like gardens, small and rich. We should beautify and adorn them with fruits and flowers, such may be inferred from the command to Adam in regard to dressing and keeping the Garden of Eden. But the farmer must be intelligent to accomplish this. Without reading and study he need not hope to make a name in the agricultural world. Without study he will always follow and never lead; for thought moves the world and thought drives the plow successfully but it is intelligent thought, such only as can come from reading and study. The farmer should have his library; he should have the sages of his art; the writings of great men, sound minded, practical men, of various nations and countries, so that he can consult them on any and every subject appertaining to his calling. Heretofore agricultural labor and learning have been separated, and this is one great source why such labor has been regarded, by certain classes, as disgraceful. Nothing can be more injurious to progress in agriculture than this baleful haleucination. At the South this mistaken sentiment must be got rid of. Our necessities, not to mention our prosperity, demand it. Young men must be educated to honor labor and to dignify it in its actual performance. To accomplish this we must have a change in our educational system. The man who does not honor labor shows a lack of brains; he is an enemy to his own and his country's welfare. Like the senseless Nero, he would fiddle while Rome was burning, or like a more illustrious one of late, he would tell a little anecdote while his country was dying. An eloquent tribute was paid to the matchless energy which is now directing many of our people of all professions and callings, to the various fields of industry. "Never before has the axe flashed with such light; never has the plow moved with such dignity before." Now is the time for agricultural and mechanical schools to be commenced; for science to put in her hand and direct these vast energies into proper channels.

The above is a very imperfect outline. It is to be hoped the address will be published in full.

Major C. W. McClammy next took the stand, and was greeted by a spontaneous outburst of applause. His subject was "Farm Life," and right handsomely did he manage it. The lights and shades of farm life were presented in vivid and amusing pictures, calling forth repeated applause. He contrasted farming with other pursuits, and showed that the same amount of industry and intelligence would as certainly bring success in farming as elsewhere; alluded to our present surroundings, and the hardness of the times, but insisted that there is life in the land still, and we can and will wage a war on these hard times till success crowns our efforts; made some amusing references to militia musters and political gatherings under the old *regime*, but now numbered with the things that were. Now we are only allowed to hear one side of the question, and that is the side we do not wish to hear.

Maj. McClammy's Address was extemporaneous, and it is to be feared for this reason the Society will fail to procure a copy.

Mr. E. W. Kerr, at the solicitation of the members of the Society, and a unanimous request from the ladies, delivered his speech of yesterday again to-day. No higher compliment can be paid this young gentleman for taste, fine elocution, and a display of talents in the management of his subject than this expression from the Society and the ladies.

The writer did not hear Mr. Bland's address of yesterday. It is spoken of in very complimentary terms, as one of the most practical of the occasion.

Several gentlemen were called to the stand, but few felt inclined to say much, as the audience had already been entertained for a considerable time by the speeches already referred to.

In excusing himself from making a speech, R. B. Frazer, Esq., Principal of Colvin's Creek Academy, paid a very handsome compliment to North Carolina, and noted the close bond of friendship that had always existed between her and Virginia, his native State. Mr. F. closed his remarks amid the applause of the audience.

After the reading of the Constitution an opportunity to join the Society was extended to those wishing to become members, and quite a respectable number availed themselves of the opportunity.

Rev. Colin Shaw was elected an honorary member.

The question as to the place of holding the next meeting of the Society was next discussed. It was thought best, for the present, whilst the Society is in its infancy, to adopt the plan of holding its meetings in different parts of the county, and thus, if possible, make all acquainted with its principles and aims, and the advantages to be derived from agricultural reform. Leesburg, South Washington and Nat. Williams', in Holly Shelter District, were spoken of as suitable places. The question was finally left to the Executive Committee to settle.

On motion of Mr. C. V. Hines, the thanks of the Society were tendered to the citizens of the surrounding country for their hospitality and kindness to the members during this meeting.

On motion, the Society adjourned.

D. MCMILLAN, President.
A. R. BLACK, Secretary.

From the Richmond Dispatch.

Washington News.

WASHINGTON, February 24.—From a condition of extraordinary excitement and anxiety this morning, there has been a gradual transition throughout the day and until to-night, when we find the public mind comparatively calm, notwithstanding the adoption of the impeachment resolution. The cause of this abatement of concern is attributable mainly to a better general understanding of the situation. It is now apparent to those who feared the President would resort to military force to sustain him and execute his orders that he has had no such purpose, and those who expected Congress to rush the impeachment project to a finality, and depose, or attempt to depose, the President within ten days, as promised by some of the Radical members, now see clearly that the suggestions made by your correspondent last night are well founded—namely, that Judge Chase cannot be induced to join in irregular or intemperate action in the Senate; that at least a portion of the Republican senators will not consent to any improper or questionable proceedings, nor hurrying up to a conviction without giving ample time for preparation, argument, and deliberation, commensurate with the gravity of the trial and the dignity of the office of President of the United States; in brief, that the trial will proceed regularly, and that the decision of the Supreme Court will be first obtained before the Senate will take a final vote upon articles of impeachment. Those who look for the end of the impeachment short of three or four months will, beyond doubt, be disappointed.

The important occurrences to day were but few. General Thomas made another demand on Stanton for possession of the War Department, and was refused by the latter.

The President nominated Mr. Ewing to be Secretary of War, and sent a message to the Senate in response to a resolution of that body of Friday night last, and setting forth the law by which its action in the Stanton matter is sustained.

The House impeached Mr. Johnson, and the latter had one of the most brilliant receptions of the season this evening at the White House, attended by Democratic congressmen, foreign diplomatic corps, members of the Cabinet, and other distinguished men, magnificently-costumed ladies, and several Radical members who to-day voted to impeach the President. These comprise the events of to-day in a nutshell.

The vote on impeachment was quietly taken, and no demonstration followed the announcement of the result, though the immense audience present listened to the proceedings with profound interest.

The *quo warranto* mentioned last night as contemplated by the President to-day was not applied for by the Attorney-General for reasons that will be made apparent shortly.

It is expected that the case against General Thomas, to be tried by Judge Carter day after to-morrow, will be decided this week, and that the proceedings will be certified to the United States Supreme Court at an early day of next week. If that court shall give the case a position of the docket for early hearing, a judgment may be had upon the constitutionality of the tenure-of-office act within a couple of months.

It is understood to-night that several Republican senators have indicated that they prefer to hold back the impeachment trial until the Supreme Court shall have rendered its decision.

WALLACE.

Narrow Escape of Bayard Taylor.

According to a letter from Italy, Bayard Taylor came near being one of the victims of the land slide at Naples, which destroyed so many lives. He occupied, with his family, a house at Santa Lucia, which was one of those overwhelmed by the avalanche, but fortunately, on the day it occurred, they were absent on a visit to Sorrento. It is said there were two Americans in an omnibus buried by the slide.

Sentenced.

Judge Benedict, in the United States District Court, in New York, has sentenced Oscar Hoyme to two years imprisonment in Sing Sing for having put fraudulent revenue stamps on boxes of cigars which he sold; and Ferdinand Boyster to fifteen months in Sing Sing prison for distilling whiskey without a license.

The Kansas Legislature has passed an act permitting women to practice law.

The Alabama Election.

Commenting on the recent election in Alabama and its results, the Montgomery Advertiser of the 16th says:

This election, in any event, has demonstrated, (1) that the whites of Alabama are united, and (2) that they will act as a unit in all matters affecting their right to control the political affairs of the State. It does not look now as if 2,000 white men had voted for the (so called) constitution; and we are certain that not one hundred have done so who did not hold office by military appointment or aspire to office in the new government. We have shown to the world, either that there are no "loyal" white men in the State, or that the "loyal" men here are opposed to negro domination in the political affairs of the State; and as it is known that at least 2,000 ex-federal officers and soldiers, now living here, refused to vote, there will be no difficulty in deciding that "loyal" Alabamians hold and will ever maintain that only white men should control the government of Alabama.

SUPREME COURT.—Opinions delivered as follows:

BY PEARSON, J. C.—In Edwards vs. Edwards, from Yancy, order reversed. In Walker vs. Forsythe, in equity, from Granville, division *per capita*—decree accordingly. In Conigland vs. Life Insurance Company, in equity, from Halifax, bill dismissed. In Lewis vs. Wilkins, in equity, from Northampton, decree according to opinion. In Wilkinson vs. Finch, in equity, from Wake, demurer allowed and bill dismissed. In George vs. Hines, in equity, from Halifax, demurer sustained and bill dismissed.

BY BATTLE, J.—In *doe ex dem* Guess vs. McCauley, from Orange, judgment affirmed. In *doe ex dem* Cox vs. Geary, from Wilkes, judgment affirmed. In State vs. Owen, from Gaston, no error. In Stickney vs. Cox, from Pitt, order affirmed. In *doe ex dem* Young vs. Perry, judgment reversed, judgment here for the plaintiff.—*Doe ex dem* Butner vs. Chaffin, from Forsythe, judgment affirmed.

BY READE, J.—In Stroud vs. Stroud, from Orange, decree for petitioner. In State vs. Rhodes, from Wilkes, no error. In Grissom vs. Parrish, in equity from Granville, demurrer overruled. In Hunt vs. Sneed, in equity, from Granville, injunction to be modified, and then continued to the hearing. In Ledbetter vs. Anderson, in equity, from Rutherford, bill dismissed with costs. In McClure vs. McClure, in equity, from Haywood, bill dismissed with costs.

Radical Governors Sustaining Congress.

HARRISBURG, Penn., February 23.—Gov. Geary yesterday sent the following:

Hon. Simon Cameron, United States Senate, Washington, D. C.:

The news to-day has created a profound sensation in Pennsylvania. The spirit of 1861 seems again to pervade the Keystone State. Troops are rapidly tendering their services to sustain the laws. Let Congress stand firm. JOHN W. GEARY.

SPRINGFIELD, ILL.,
EXECUTIVE DEPATMENT,
Feb. 22, 1868.

The usurpations of Andrew Johnson have created a profound sensation in this State. His last act is the act of a traitor. His treason must be checked. The duty of Congress is plain. The people of Illinois attached to the Union, I firmly believe, demand his impeachment, and will heartily sustain such action by our Congress.—The peace of the country is not to be trifled with by that presumptuous demagogue. We know the National Congress will proceed wisely and cautiously. But let it proceed. Millions of loyal hearts are panting to stand by the stars and stripes. Have no fear. All will be well. Liberty and order will again triumph.

B. J. OGLESBY, Governor.

From the New York Herald.

The President's Views on the Situation.

WASHINGTON, February 21, 1868.—The removal of Secretary Stanton to-day has taken Washington—perhaps the whole country—by surprise. It is regarded as a perfect Presidential *coup d'etat*, frightens the timid, astounds the Radicals, rejoices the Democrats and electrifies all classes. The condition of affairs here, indeed, strikes one as somewhat portentous of disorder and revolution, but I think it safe to predict that the country will not go to pieces over the matter, and that a few days will develop the fact that no serious peril exists. As I am writing to-night all sort of wild rumors are afloat, such as that Mr. Thomas has been arrested by order of Stanton, that Grant is to be removed to-morrow, and that Hancock has been summoned here to take command of the new Department of Washington. Discredit all these stories from whatever quarter they come, and be assured that they are circulated by speculators to affect the gold market. Instead of Thomas being under arrest, the truth is that he is now at a grand masquerade enjoying himself most heartily. The President, of course, is an object of great interest to-night.—Crowds of people called to talk with him, but he was not at his office, being engaged in discharging the agreeable duties of host to a number of distinguished diplomats and officials.

Your correspondent, however, had an interview with his Excellency to-night after the state dinner, and found him not stricken with fear or trembling, but smiling and radiant, in better humor and spirits than for many months. The President received your correspondent after the usual hour for visitors, and granted him half an hour's interview. After the customary salutations your correspondent remarked that the country was somewhat taken by surprise by the removal of Stanton and the appointment of Thomas as Secretary *ad interim*.

The President smiled and inquired, "Well, what do the people say? I suppose they are suprised; but I have only done what I had determined upon long ago."

Correspondent—The removal, then, is not in pursuance of a recent determination on your part, Mr. President?"

The President—"Not at all, sir. The people seem to have mistaken my course altogether in this matter. I never had but one determination on the subject, but I have acted carefully, prudently and moderately. Perhaps I have been too slow about removing Mr. Stanton, but not because I feared the bugbear of impeachment, or that I dreaded anything that Congress might do. Nothing that body could attempt or carry out would intimidate or surprise me. I know they are capable of doing anything. I delayed final action solely to let the country see and understand the position of Mr. Stanton. We first intimated to him that we would like him to withdraw from our privy council. He did not take the hint. We then requested him to resign. He refused. We then suspended him, under the constitutional power which we have to suspend or remove a member of our Cabinet. The act of suspension was also not in conflict with the Tenure-of-Office bill, though we did not, therefore, recognize its constitutionality. As a matter of courtesy we sent reasons for our action to the Senate.—That body pretended not to consider those reasons sufficient, and assumed to reinstate Mr. Stanton in office. Well, we still waited, hoping Mr. Stanton would see the propriety of resigning himself. General Sherman and General Grant offered to go to Stanton and advise him to resign.—Here is a letter which indicates what they proposed:—

The President here allowed your correspondent to read the following letter to him from General Sherman:—

322 K STREET, WASHINGTON,
Jan. 18—Saturday.

I neglected this morning to say that I had agreed to go down to Annapolis to spend Sunday with Admiral Porter. General Grant has to leave for Richmond on Monday morning, at six A. M. At a conversation with the General after our interview, wherein I offered to go with him on Monday morning to Mr. Stanton and say that it was our joint opinion he should resign, it was found impossible by reason of his going to Richmond and my going to Annapolis. The General proposed this course:—He will call on you to-morrow and offer to go to Mr. Stanton to say for the good of the service and of the country he ought to resign. This on Sunday. On Monday I will again call on you, and if you think it necessary I will do the same—call on Mr. Stanton and tell him he should resign. If he will not, then it will be time to contrive ulterior measures. In the meantime it so happens that no necessity exists for precipitating matters.

Yours truly,
W. T. SHERMAN, Lieutenant General.

The President then continued, "After waiting a reasonable time he thought proper to-day to order the removal of Mr. Stanton and to appoint General Thomas Secretary of War *ad interim*. This is the whole story."

Correspondent—"Was this step discussed in the Cabinet Counsel, Mr. President?"

The President—"No, sir; not precisely. A general policy was agreed upon some time ago, and the removal to-day is in accordance therewith. I have just received a copy of the resolution adopted by the Senate to-night in executive session." The President here read the resolution printed elsewhere.

Correspondent—"What will the Senate do, Mr. President, under that resolution, if you still insist upon having Gen. Thomas act as Secretary *ad interim*?"

The President—"I don't see that they can do anything. The resolution itself is the end of the matter, as far as the Senate is concerned, unless the House presents articles of impeachment and the Senate undertakes to try the Executive and resolves itself into a high court of impeachment?"

Correspondent—"Do you think Congress really will attempt impreachment, Mr. President?"

The President—"I don't know, indeed; nor do I care. It would make very little difference to me."

Your correspondent here asked what the President would do in the event of the passage of Mr. Edmunds' bill of suspension, to which the President answered, substantially, "Sir, I would not obey the law if they attempted to suspend me. The law is clearly unconstitutional. There is a point against it which you gentlemen of the press seem to have altogether overlooked. The bill of Senator Edmunds to suspend trial would undoubtedly be an *ex post facto* law so far as my case would be concerned. Such a law is declared unconstitutional by the very language of the constitution itself. My offence, we will suppose is the removal of Mr. Stanton. That is an accomplished fact. Any law prescribing a penalty for that act would be *ex post facto*, and therefore unconstitutional. How, therefore, can Congress legally pass a bill of such a character.

Your correspondent remarked that certain radicals might argue that a persistence in keeping Mr. Stanton out of office, after the Senate declaring his removal contrary to law, and after the proposed passage of Mr. Edmunds' suspension bill, would be bringing the question out of the operation of an *ex post facto* law.

The President replied that that could not alter the case, as the offence charged would still be the removal of Mr. Stanton—an act performed before the passage of the proposed law.

In reply to an inquiry as to whether the President had seen General Thomas since the interview of the latter with Mr. Stanton the President said yes, and proceeded to state what, according to his information, had occurred at that interview. "General Thomas," he said, "waited upon Mr. Stanton, and showed to him the President's order removing Mr. Stanton and appointing him (General Thomas) as Secretary of War *ad interim*. Mr. Stanton read the order, and asked Thomas whether he would be obliged to vacate the office forthwith. Thomas said his instructions were to assume control immediately. Stanton then said he would like to have time to arrange and take away his papers and documents; to which Thomas replied that a considerable time would be allowed for such purpose. No time, however, was fixed for Mr. Stanton to finish his arrangements."

Your correspondent had some farther conversation with the President, but the chief points have been given. The President repeatedly expressed his utter indifference as to what course Congress might adopt on the impeachment question; and in answer to a parting remark of your correspondent that the President might sleep soundly in spite of the threatened impeachment he said, laughing, "I don't think my slumbers will be much disturbed by that affair. I shall sleep soundly and awake refreshed."

For the Journal.

A Day's Experience.

I was awakened from a calm and peaceful slumber, by the warbling of a little songster of the wood, whose sweet notes had more than once delighted me. The roseate hue of morning was in the east and the sun was shining beautiful and bright; my chamber was filled with the beauty of the morning's light; the perfumed breeze had filled the place with a sweet fragrance and my heart was delighted, and in the fullness of my gladness I wept and thanked the source of all good for the beauty to which I had just awakened. All that glorious morning my heart was filled with a strange, new happiness; in the fullness of my joy I pointed out a new sphere of duty. I would begin now. But hark! A low rumbling sound is heard; deeper and louder it sounds upon the ear. Now dark, heavy, black clouds gather—soon the smiling heavens are concealed from view; splashes of heavy rain are heard against the casement; the animals seek shelter from the storm, and, with the bright morning, my visions of happiness vanish. I am alone, listening to the raging of the elements without; there is no *inward* sunshine to brighten and cheer me; the dark little web in the corner, which was *so* beautiful to me as it waved in the light breeze and reflected the bright sun is like that fanciful web of happiness, which was reflecting also the beauty of sunshine. Hours have elapsed; no longer the raging storms disturb me. *I hear* only the soft pattering rain; but that now ceases. The clouds are fast disappearing from the Western horizon. Behold! there appears the gorgeous king of day in all the glory of his beauty; glorious clouds of liquid gold, crimson and purple commingle and float around; each cloud is tinted with the beauty of the brilliant sunset; the earth one flood of golden light; the dewy foliage sparkles in the amber hue; every pool is liquid gold; the songsters peal forth their hymns of praise in the far East; the beauty of the evening is reflected, and soft roseate hues of morning cover the Heavens; and on my heart one of those rays of beauty, and one of those notes of thanksgiving must have fallen, for again I am softened by the scene, and again I weep and pray, but not with the gushing gladness of the morn, for I see and feel my weakness and tremble, and in the beauty, the glory, the radiance of that evening I read my Day's Experience.

FEB 29 1868

From the Raleigh Sentinel.

The "Constitutional Convention."

(So-called.)

NIGHT SESSION.

THURSDAY, Feb. 20, P. M.

The Convention was called to order, according to adjournment, at 7½ o'clock.

The suffrage question was resumed, Rev. Mr. Welker on the floor. He, in alluding to Mr. Ellis' remarks, said that he (Mr. Ellis) had only used the argument, that had been used in this State for the last one hundred years, viz: That God had created one class inferior, and to be made slaves of, &c. He argued that the simple ability to read and write did not qualify a man preeminently for suffrage. The negroes had been intelligent enough to support the party that was striving to raise them from their oporessed condition. They had been intelligent enough to be loyal to the Government, and their services in defence of the country, if nothing else, entitled them to our gratitude, and they should be enfranchised.

In lauding the colored race, he said from what came under his immedate observation in his own county, the colored man was *superior* to the white, in some particulars—temperance, for instance.

Mr. Holt asked him if he held that doctrine, and used that language in his county ten years ago.

Mr. Welker replied that, ten years ago, he was not in public life; he did not then make speeches, but such had always been his opinion.

In regard to the disfranchisement of certain men, he could not ignore the fact that for four years treason and bloodshed had swept over the land, and now, instead of submission and duty, we find defiance and disorder. Whether they should be admitted to the ballot, then, was the question to be asked. He believed that some men, who had gone into the service of the Confederate States, of their own accord, had, in good faith, returned to their allegiance, but there were men here still defiant and rebellious; they could not surely expect to have all the rights and privileges of true and "loil" men.

Gentlemen had threatened war. He (Mr. W.) did not mean to bandy threats with them, but he would tell the gentlemen that, if they ever dared to raise the sword, that these suffering people (negroes) would sweep down from their *mountain fastnesses*, gathering strength as they came, and, like a mighty avalanche, crush out these men so thoroughly, that scarcely one would be left to tell the tale.

Mr. Forkner commenced a speech by abusing Andrew Johnson and contending that Congress had legally all the power it claimed in governing these Southern States, and more too. In regard to disfranchisement, he was sorry that there was such a difference of opinion among the Western delegates. Reason should govern them, not passion. They should not legislate in a vindictive manner. Though threats had been indulged in on this floor, yet he would not be thrown off his guard. They should leave all party measures and issues, and legislate so that it would redound to the credit of the State. He did not believe in the power of this Convention to disfranchise anybody.

It had been said that there were men enough in this State hostile to the Government to control the State, if allowed to vote, but this is not so. He did not wish to place a clause in the Constitution that disfranchises men that did not go with the Republican party, but would declare universal suffrage and equal rights and privileges to all. He thought there was more safety in a liberal course than in a proscriptive one. If men were to be punished, this was not the tribunal to try them. If you pursue a harsh course, it will be a feather in the caps of the "rebels." The people of the West are for the most part Union men, but they are not yet satisfied about this thing you call *negro equality*.—Though we were elected by large majorities, yet, if you examine the statistics, you will find that not a half a vote was cast.

Mr. Ray said that it was to endanger our safety to give rebels the balot. They had given no signs of repentance, and, until they did, he wanted them to be kept down. Universal negro suffrage was a fixed fact, and he was sorry that so many gentlemen favored *universal white suffrage*.

Mr. Holt said that while the Convention was on this question of disfranchisement, he hoped the *cases of the deserters from the Confederate army*, not only in this State, not only in this city, BUT SITTING NOW IN THIS HALL, might be investigated—men who volunteered, but who, when called upon to expose their cowardly carcases, deserted, not on account of love for the Union, but because they were too miserably cowardly to face fire. Men who, in 1861, threw up their hats, shouted for the Confederate flag, men who taught us secession, *now come cowardly on their knees, professing to be truly loyal and deserving.*

Hood, (negro), by consent of the House, replied to Mr. Ellis' speech. He occupied the floor for some time.

On motion of Mr. Abbott, the House adjourned.

MORNING SESSION.

FRIDAY, Feb. 21, 1868.

The Convention was called to order at 10 o'clock.

Prayer by the Rev. Mr. Atkinson, of the city.

Hood (negro) said the Reporter of the Sentinel had misrepresented him, unintentionally, in regard to the notice given by him of the introduction of an ordinance lifting the fine upon Justices of the Peace and ministers of the gospel celebrating the rites of matrimony. He (Hood, negro,) wished the ordinance read.

The Chair objected, saying that it could be read at the proper time. He did not think anything emanating from the Sentinel would have much effect, and he had no idea of having the document read, merely to please the Sentinel!

Hood (negro) replied it might have been misunderstood, and he wished it read, in order that its meaning might be made plain.

RESOLUTIONS, ORDINANCES, &C.

Mr. Jones, of Washington, a resolution requiring the Secretary of State to provide the Convention with stationery, &c. Mr. Jones said that the Secretary had, according to law, provided his office with the necessary articles, and if he had been called upon would have furnished them, thus saving the State great necessary expense. On motion of Mr. J. the rules were suspended and the resolution was adopted.

The ordinance of Hood, (negro,) of which he gave notice yesterday, was next taken up and read.

The ordinance recites that, on account of an act of the Legislature, prohibiting marriages, unless under license from the County Court Clerk, such marriage is illegal and the Minister or Justice solemnizing marriage, subjects himself to fine.—On account of the death of the Clerk of Cumberland County Court, commissions had been issued by certain Magistrates (Messrs. McRae, Lett and Pemberton,) to certain Ministers and Justices to celebrate marriages, and the Ministers and Justices celebrating the rites of matrimony, under the commissions, should be exempted from all fines.

The rules were suspended and the ordinance was adopted.

SPECIAL ORDER—SUFFRAGE.

Mr. Tourgee occupied the floor. He, like the rest of his party, regarded universal negro suffrage a fixed fact. They, the negroes, had settled that question themselves. He paid the usual glowing Radical tribute to the gallant services of black men during the war. He alluded to the capture of Fort Pillow as a hellish massacre, and called Gen. Forrest an unhanged, blood-stained traitor, who was now howling for a white man's Government.

In regard to forgiving and extending the rights and privileges of citizens to those men who had striven to overthrow the government, he would not be willing to do it, unless they were really and sincerely repentent and willing to give to a poor, humble and down-trodden race, recently emerged from bondage, the same rights and privileges which they asked for themselves.

He continued in the usual strain, giving a description of the Southern white man's oppression of the negroes since they had been freed. Even justice in the Court House had been denied to them in the most shameless manner, &c.

He concluded by hoping that the minority report of Messrs. Candler and Congleton, in its main features, would become the law of the land.

Mr. Jones, of Washington, next spoke. As to universal negro suffrage, he, of course, favored it. In regard to the *disfranchisement* question, he wished to strike out the 9th section, requiring registration and the majority oath amended so that every registered voter shall swear never to aid secession of the State and to accept the political equality of *all* men; so that no man who had voted against this Constitution could register, for this Constitution provides for civil and political equality, and a man, voting against it, denies that equality, and, therefore, he could not take the required oath.

Mr. Pool said that as this was the most important question that had yet been before the Convention, he would postpone his call for the previous question until to-morrow.

Mr. Kinney next expatiated. He was next to the oldest man in the House, having cast his first vote in 1807. He indulged in a good many ancient reminiscences about things which, as he had not been able to read and write, he knew nothing about.—He told, too, how he had, when Chairman of the Registration Board in his county prevented a young man from registering, who told him that he had fought in the Confederate army and would do so again. He (Kinney), if it was in his power, would provide that no Minister of the Gospel, who had prayed for the success of the Confederacy, should vote. He had stated upon his canvass, and felt so now, that he was in favor of disfranchising all that Congress had put under the ban, for life, and as for taxing those men thus deprived of their rights, he would tax their property as long as they held a dollar's worth in this State. He could not for his life forgive them and not one of them should, by his vote, be admitted to the ballot-box.

Mr. Parker thought that both Republicans and Conservatives would make mischief by going into extremes. He did not believe the enfranchisement of those disfranchised would endanger the safety of the government. He did not believe the acts of Congress required them to disfranchise any of our fellow-citizens. It was not in keeping with the Republican doctrine; it was bad policy and dangerous, subversive to the best interest of the State. He could not, with clear conscience, advocate a Constitution that contained a clause disfranchising a portion of our fellow-citizens.

Mr. Rich gave notice that he would occupy the floor this evening.

Mr. Graham, of Orange, said that the Chairman of this Committee on Suffrage (Mr. Pool) had given notice that he would move the previous question. He hoped the courtesy of the Republican party on this floor would give Mr. Durham an opportunity to reply to their attacks upon their (Messrs. Durham and Graham's) minority report, this evening, at the conclusion of Mr. Rich's remarks.

On motion, the House adjourned until 7½ o'clock, this evening.

NIGHT SESSION.

FRIDAY, Feb. 21, 1868.

The Convention was called to order at 7½ o'clock.

The Suffrage question was again taken up.

Mr. Rich, who was entitled to the floor, said that when he secured the floor, this morning, he hoped to have recovered from his hoarseness, but, as he had not, he must request the Secretary to read his remarks. He had condensed them so as only to detain the House a few minutes.

The Secretary read the paper. It contained the usual argument in behalf of universal negro suffrage, and opposed the disfranchisement of any class of white men. A large portion of those already disfranchised were loyal and law-abiding men, and, viewing the matter in a purely partisan point of view, they would gain more by a kind and lenient course than they could possibly by a harsh one. It must be confessed that the Republican party had lost ground in the North by legislating in a proscriptive manner.

Mr. Rich was in favor of enfranchising all, and of presenting a just and wise Constitution,—thereby healing up all party strife and contention, and uniting all the people in bonds of love and affection.

Mr. Durham said that, at first, it was his intention not to speak, as he regarded this matter of negro suffrage as a settled thing, for the present, and he well knew that nothing that they could say would stop Radicalism in this blind and mad career. He had been surprised and amused at the direction the debate had taken. It was extraordinary in the extreme. For the last three days and nights this measure had been discussed in purely a party point of view,—not, as it should be, in a high-minded, statesmanlike manner, with an eye single to the good of the country. It had been discussed solely for the advancement of the *Republican party*. At the same time, he was amused to see how frightened the gentlemen on the other side were, and how they kicked the poor old dead "rebellion," when there was no danger. A stranger, coming into this Hall, would have supposed the rebellion just in its incipiency, instead of having been dead for three years,—and that life and death were at stake to crush it out. It had become his duty to defend his *honest white* constituents, and the Conservative gentlemen who thought and acted with him, from the unjust and unfounded insinuations that rebellious sentiments were lurking in their bosoms.

He had the honor or *dishonor* (whichever you choose) to belong to the committee on Suffrage, and had been called, in conjunction with Mr. Graham, to offer a minority report, in which were embodied the sentiments of the honest, intelligent white citizens of this State. Mr. Pool, the Chairman of the committee, in his speech the other day, had said, in taking up the report, that he would divest it of all its finery. He started with the first section, and said that he (Pool) did not wonder that we (the Conservatives) look with fear and apprehension upon the admission of so large a class of ignorant blacks to the ballot-box, for he knew that vote would be thrown with the Radical party. A most flimsy argument. He (Mr. Durham) did not know whether Mr. Pool had been a slave-owner or not, but he would venture the assertion that, six years ago Mr. Pool advocated and believed in the right of holding slaves, as much as any other man in the State.

Mr. Durham, after demolishing the various shallow arguments of Mr. Pool, proceeded to draw a faithful picture of the existing state of things, in regard to colored suffrage in the Northern States. It is a great moral right that you wish the negroes to have, why do not the Northern Republicans, who have controlled the Northern States for the last twenty-five or thirty years, give to the negro suffrage? No, they will not do it, but, for party purposes, they use you (the negroes) for their tools. They laugh at you in their sleeves, and, for your supleness and servility, they look upon you with disgust.

Mr. Durham entered into a long argument, showing the fallacy of the arguments advanced by the Republican party on the floor, in regard to the constitutionality of the reconstruction acts. In regard to our having falsified our oaths to support the Constitution, the reverse is the truth; it is you that have done it. We swore to support the Constitution of the United States. The reconstruction acts are declared by the great enunciator of doctrines of the Radical party, to be outside of the Constitution. The President of the United States has so declared them, and we (the Conservatives) reject them as being contrary to the teachings of that document. You, on the other side, in advocating these acts of Congress, violate your oaths—if not legally, you do morally. How can we be charged with having broken our faith in this matter?—When he (Mr. D.) took the amnesty oath, he did not swear to support Thad. Stevens and the rest of his infamous crew. He had kept his oath sacred and inviolate.

Mr. Durham in alluding to the brave men that had fallen in the Confederate cause, fallen in defence of their country, said that if any member on this floor dared to impugn their patriotism, or reflect in an improper manner upon their motives in fighting for that cause, he would tell them, one and all, that they *lied in their throats*.

[We hope to be able to give Mr. Durham's remarks *in extenso*, hereafter.]

Mr. McDonald, of Chatham, was next upon the floor. He seems to think that all Mr. Durham's allusions to the Republican party were leveled at *him* and launched out into one of his characteristic speeches. He denounced the late rebellion as a wholesale murder, and the men engaged in it as murderers. Of course he told how many times he had been in the Legislature, and wound up by declaring he did not wish to trust any one who had fought the rebellion out to the end.

Mr. Durham at once characterized him as a clown, and said he would not notice anything that came from such a source.

Mr. Watts had spoken once upon this subject, but, by consent, was allowed to attempt a reply to Mr. Durham. He expatiated for some time.

Mr. Abbott next spoke, going over substantially the ground which he did when he last spoke.

Harris, of Wake (negro), another speech of the same old kind.

Mr. McDonald, of Chatham, arose to a personal explanation. He said that, in alluding to the late war, he did not mean to classify the masses of the men, who had fought in the late war, as murderers, but only included such as President Davis and Gov. Vance, &c.

On motion of Mr. French, of Chowan, the House adjourned.

MORNING SESSION.

SATURDAY, Feb. 22, 1868.

The Convention was called to order at 10 o'clock.

Prayer by the Rev. Mr. Brewer.

Mr. McDonald, of Chatham, moved that the body adjourn until Monday next at 10 o'clock, in honor of Washington's birth day.

Mr. Forkner moved to amend, by forfeiting the *per diem* for to-day.

Messrs. French, of Chowan, and King, of Lenoir, objected to the adjournment.

Galloway (negro), favored it.

Hood (negro), didn't.

By Mr. French, of Chowan: A resolution that this Convention honor the memory of Washington, by proceeding to engraft upon the Constitution the principles of truth and justice which have rendered his name illustrious.

On motion of Hood (negro), the rules were suspended and the resolution adopted.

Mr. Pool moved to suspend the rules and take up the Suffrage question. Agreed to, when

Mr. Grant, of Wayne, took the floor.—He spoke for some time in favor of the majority report, as he did not wish to present a Constitution that savored of a partisan character. He gave vent to the usual argument in behalf of universal negro suffrage, and grew "eloquent" upon the long suffering of that down-trodden race.

Mr. Heaton next arose. He was glad that they were approaching the settlement of this great question upon the birth day of the father of his country, and he could have wished that the Farewell Address of that great man could have been read to this body, as the principles embodied in it underlaid the whole foundation of the government, and he hoped that at least some portions of it would be read ere this day's work was done. Mr. H. went into a long argument upon the subject, and, in regard to the disfranchisement of a certain class, he said that though the remembrances of the late rebellion, and the appeals of aged men upon this floor, and the shrill notes of defiance from gentlemen on the other side had made his bosom swell within him, yet he would not be driven from off his ground. He did not think that they should for an instant set aside their cool and sober judgment in coming to a conclusion in this matter.

Mr. Heaton did not exactly favor any of the reports. He thought they should conform to the acts of Congress—not go one jot beyond them or fall one iota below them. He held that any Constitution that they might frame must conform in every particular to the requirements of the reconstruction acts. As this plan is laid down there was no other resource than to comply with it; and he thought, so far as *voting* is concerned, that when the State is reconstructed under that plan, universal suffrage will practically prevail, but not universal amnesty until the Congress chooses to relieve men by a special act of legislation. He believed that there is a large class of men in the State that should never hold office, and that, while they would be allowed to vote, yet many of them would grow grey before Congress would allow them to hold office.

In touching upon negro suffrage, and the rights of that class, he contended that the Declaration of Independence contained no clause that recognized the right of property in man, and that the noblest sentiment ever uttered by Madison was when he said that he (Madison) would not permit the word "slave" to appear in the Constitution.

Mr. Durham asked him if it did not contain a pledge not to interfere with the African slave trade until 1808.

Mr. H. replied: "I know very well that the slave trade was permitted to exist until the year 1808, but was then abrogated as a great moral crime, and those who engaged in it were held to be pirates."

Mr. H. continued for some time, and in conclusion was followed by

Mr. Durham, who said that he hoped that Mr. Pool would not, according to his notice, call the previous question at this hour, as he found that he was compelled to reply briefly to the remarks of Mr. Heaton. He (Mr. Durham) thought the invocation of the spirit of George Washington was merely made to hush the mournful death-knell that was about to be sounded over the death of the liberties of the people of this State. Washington was himself a large slaveholder, and never a word fell from his lips advocating the freeing of those slaves in order to give them suffrage and privileges, to the degradation of a portion of his own color and fellow-citizens.—In regard to the foul aspersions cast upon the people of this State, who had done their duty to their country in defending its sacred rights, he would defend them, or, at least, that portion of them who were his constituents. As to the outrages and wrongs perpetrated upon humanity, he could charge ten cases upon Northern troops to where *one* was committed by the Southern soldiers in the late war. Northern men charged upon us the commission of a great wrong in attempting a separation from the Union. That was *their* version of it, but he honestly believed that wrongs had been inflicted; that our rights had been outraged, and we acted as men *should* act—took up arms to resist encroachments; and those who assailed their honesty in so acting, and their belief in the justness of their cause, spoke most falsely.

We believe *now* in the principles upon which the war was fought, but we accept the issue of that war as settling forever that for which we contended. We have accepted that as a legitimate result of the war; and now, is it the part of a magnanimous conqueror to say that a large class of our intelligent fellow-citizens shall go down to their graves deprived of their rights as citizens?

The real intention of the Radicals in this matter was to persecute all men who will not swear to support the Republican party. Some of you do not say it directly, but you do indirectly, while Messrs. Candler and Congleton have, with more boldness, come out and said so openly. All of you, in truth and fact, legislate for the same end. This is a pretty Constitution to offer the should-be free and intelligent citizens of this State! You come out and say plainly, that failing to make them come into your measures by honorable argument, you intend, by infamous test oaths, to keep them from opposing you at the ballot-box.

Mr. Candler wished to refer him to the Constitution adopted by Alabama.

Mr. Durham replied that it was as infamous and iniquitous as the measure with which this Convention would outrage the people of this State. The people of Alabama had hurled it back in their teeth, though the negroes had a large majority in the State. It was too monstrous and hellish for even them to swallow.

Mr. Candler replied that loyal men had framed it.

Mr. Durham: "*Loyal! loyal!*" There goes that perverted word again! It did not come well *from a man who had deserted from the Confederate cause*, after he had, of his own free will and accord, volunteered in its service.

Mr. Candler replied that *he was a young* man, not of age, when he did it, and he soon found that he was in the wrong pew.

Mr. Durham: Yes, I have seen men under fire, whose not very *praiseworthy conduct* seemed to indicate that they had come to the conclusion that they had got into the "*wrong pew!*" I was not of age when the war commenced. I had no vote, but if I had, I should have voted for Secession, believing it to be a right and a sacred one. I fought the war through, and to-day *am proud of my record*, believing now, as I did then, that our cause was right and just.—But at the surrender, I accepted the result in good faith, as did the whole people of this State.

Mr. Durham ably argued, for some time the various propositions contained in the reports, and the various amendments and substitutes proposed, and concluded by branding the whole thing as a vile and iniquitous measure, gotten up to choke off all opposition to the Radical party.

Mr. Heaton replied in quite a lengthy argument.

Mr. Ashley was next rampant upon Mr. Durham's allusion to the causes that led to the rebellion, &c.

Mr. Candler, one of the signers of a minority report, said he had not changed his opinion in regard to it one iota. He was in favor of disfranchising all "traitors," especially Govs. Graham and Vance, whose influence and ability were worth thousands of votes.

Everybody that had participated in the rebellion should be grateful for escaping with their necks. The blood of thousands of loyal men cries to this Convention for vengeance. He would go for disfranchising more, if he could get his hands on them, and remove the disabilities now resting on such good and true men as W. W. Holden, and some other Radicals. He concluded by offering a substitute for the whole subject matter.

The Chair ruled it out of order, saying that there were already two substitutes before the house.

Mr. Tourgee said that he wished to know what the effect of the previous question would be. Would it cut off amendments?

The Chair decided not.

Mr. Pool said that the attendance was so slim, that a fair vote could not be obtained. He, therefore, moved to adjourn until Monday next, 10 o'clock.

After various objections and a good deal of wrangling, it was carried.

LATEST NEWS
BY TELEGRAPH.

From Washington.

War Department Imbroglio—Impeachment—Senator Morton Grows Circumspect—New York Preparing for War!

WASHINGTON, D. C., Feb. 24—Noon.

Comparative quiet prevails in the city this morning. No more war talk.

Application was made to the Supreme Court this morning for a writ of *quo warranto* against Stanton.

The House is now debating the resolution of impeachment. Its passage is regarded as certain.

At 10:30 A. M. General Thomas went to the War Department and ordered Mr. Stanton to vacate, and demanded the mails.

Mr. Stanton again refused.

General Thomas then went to the Adjutant General's office, but issued no orders.

Neither party has as yet issued any order which requires recognition by the other Departments of the Government.

Senator Morton, of Indiana, is positively reported as saying, that "their party could not stand the pressure, and that the present feeling and purpose of the House could not be sustained."

WASHINGTON, D. C., Feb. 24—P. M.

SENATE.—There was nothing of importance transacted in the Senate to-day.

HOUSE.—The session was cut up into speeches of from three to twenty minutes. These were crude emergency speeches generally, explaining predetermined votes.

The impeachment resolution was passed by a strict party vote, except Mr. Stewart of New York, and Mr. Carey, of Ohio, who voted with the Democrats.

The committee appointed to announce to the Senate the action of the House relative to the impeachment of the President consists of Messrs. Stevens, of Pennsylvania, and Bingham, of Massachusetts.

The committee to prepare articles of impeachment consists of Messrs. Boutwell, Stevens, Bingham, Wilson, Logan, of Indiana, and Ward. This committee has power to send for persons and papers. Adjourned.

The most profound silence followed the communication of the vote.

Mr. Stanton to-day said he wished reporters would let him alone.

The day closes with Mr. Stanton dining in the War Department with Mr. Chandler and other gentlemen.

The President at dinner, General Thomas at his home, and everything quiet.

The President is reported as saying that he recognized no one but General Thomas as Secretary of War and meant to recognize no one else. He concluded the interview by saying, God and the American people would make all right and save our institutions.

President Johnson appends to his message nominating a Secretary of War the assertion that he has not and does not intend violating the tenure-of-office act or any other law, and argues elaborately his right, even under that law, to remove Mr. Stanton and appoint an *ad interim* Secretary.

WASHINGTON, D. C, Feb. 25—Noon.

The reception at the White House last night was remarkable for its unusual crowd, and the absence of Radical officials and the presence of foreign representatives.

Dispatches of encouragement to both parties continue to come.

The Radicals in several localities have fired from fifty to one hundred guns in honor of the House resolutions.

A special sent Northward says General Grant, in a conversation with Mr. Wilson, said the officers of the army are a unit in support of Congress, and not more than a dozen out of twenty-five hundred would obey an order from the President unless it came through him.

On reading the dispatch from General Thomas declining the brevet, General Grant remarked: "Just what I expected from General Thomas.—He is a good soldier."

WASHINGTON, D. C., Feb. 25—P M.

SENATE—Mr. Sumner read the Harvey dispatches and explained how they came confidentially into his possession.

At noon the Clerk of the House appeared and announced the impeachment resolutions.

A number of the members of the House entered and took seats, and afterwards Messrs. Stevens and Bingham (Committee) entered, when Mr. Stevens said: "Mr. President, in obedience to the order of the House of Representatives, we appear before you and, in the name of the House of Representatives and of all the people of the United States, do impeach the President of the United States for high crimes and misdemeanors in office, and we further inform the Senate that the House of Representatives will, in due time, exhibit particular articles of impeachment against him and make good the same, and in their name we demand that the Senate take order for the appearance of said Andrew Johnson to answer to said impeachment.

Mr. Wade said that the Senate will take order in the premises.

A special committee consisting of Messrs. Howard, Trumbull, Morton, Conkling, Edmunds, Pomeroy, and Johnson, was appointed to examine into impeachment, and report the proceedings.

A bill making the majority to confirm the Constitution allowing registered voters to vote anywhere in the State after ten days residence; also to vote on certificate, affidavit or other such evidence, having been registered, was passed by a vote of 28 to 6. The Senate adjourned.

A resolution was presented that impeachment articles be debated one day and then voted on without debate or dilatorymotions.

The Impeachment and Reconstruction committees were allowed to sit during the sessions. The House then adjourned.

The Administration has abandoned the *quo warranto* writ against Mr. Stanton, as proceedings will commence against General Thomas to-morrow, which will cover the whole ground.

The Cabinet met at noon to-day; all the members were present except General Thomas, Secretary of War *ad interim*.

Mr. Stanton still holds on to the War Department.

The excitement in the city has entirely subsided.

The impression is growing that the Senate proceedings will be tedious.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Feb. 26—P. M.

Several Senators expressed doubts about the conviction of the President for the violation of the tenure of office bill; therefore the impeachment charges will embrace seven or eight counts.

Secretary McCulloch honored Mr. Stanton's requisitions to-day for various amounts on account of the War Department.

General Thomas did not go to the War Department to-day.

The Impeachment Article Committee of the House have been engaged in examining General Emory. Serious differences are reported in the committee.

The idea that Radical troubles are thickening prevails, though no tangible facts have transpired.

Mr. Stanton answered the subpœna that he would obey at noon, but as the case was thrust out of court no further proceedings were had.

The House concurred in the Supplemental Reconstruction bill passed yesterday by the Senate. It provides that a majority of voters shall ratify the Constitution. Registered persons shall vote anywhere in the State after ten days residence, registration being proved by certificate, affidavit or other evidence, and that Congressional and State elections shall be held simultaneously with that for ratification of the Constitution. The vote stood 96 to 32.

Important Document in Support of the Policy of President Johnson.

NEW YORK, Feb. 24—NOON.

The following document is now receiving signatures in this city: The undersigned are desirous of forming a series of associations in support of Andrew Johnson, and are willing to resort to arms to repel the revolutionary attempts on the part of Congress to overthrow the lawful and constitutional authority of the Chief Executive of the nation.

The Keystone Club of Philadelphia (Democratic), a Military Organization.

PHILADELPHIA, Feb. 25—P. M.

The Keystone Club, the largest Democratic organization in Pennsylvania, has resolved itself into a military organization.

From Raleigh—The Radical Nominating Convention (so-called).

RALEIGH, Feb. 26—P. M.

The State Radical Convention to nominate candidates under the new Constitution, met here today in Tucker Hall. There was a large gathering of blacks at the Convention. X. P. G. Holden was nominated for Governer. Col. Heaton gets the nomination for Congress from the Newbern district.

Mr. Hedrick, of Grange county, offered the following resolution in the Radical Nominating Convention to-day:

Resolved, That no person shall receive from this Convention a nomination on the State ticket who is disqualified from holding office either by the reconstruction acts of Congress or by the fourteenth article of the Constitution of the United States, known as the Howard Amendment.

Mr. Hedrick urged the passage of this resolution, on the ground that reconstruction should be in the hands of those who did not need to be pardoned for participation in the rebellion, and that the laws and Constitution of the United States were in force in North Carolina. The friends of Mr. Holden, who is disqualified under the laws for his prominent participation in the war, refused to entertain the resolution, and laid it on the table.

Capt. Lee, the Holden candidate for Sheriff of Wake county, virtually moved to expel Mr. Hedrick from the Convention for offering this resolution, but at the instance of Col. Heaton, the matter was dropped.

Markets.

NEW YORK, Feb. 27—Noon.

Sterling Exchange 109¾. Bonds—old issue, 110⅞. Gold 141¼.

Flour 10@20 cents lower. Wheat drooping. Corn 1 cent better. Mess Pork better—quoted at $25. Lard firm at 15¾@16¾ cents. Cotton drooping—middling 22@22½ cents. Spirits Turpentine 72½@73½ cents ₱ gallon. Rosin firm.

A soldier who stole a cheese in Galveston was compelled to eat it.

Grand Rally of White Men of Duplin.

There is to be a meeting of the Conservative Party of Duplin County, at Kenansville, on Saturday, 7th day of March. Colonels R. H. COWAN and W. S. DEVANE, of this city, and GEO. V. STRONG, of Goldsboro', have been invited and will address the people on that occasion. We predict a large and enthusiastic meeting, and promise the citizens of that patriotic county most eloquent and able speeches.

The white people of North Carolina are in earnest. From the Mountains to the Seaboard, her sons are being aroused to the dangers which surround them, and the voices of old and trusted leaders are pointing the road to safety and deliverance.

Conservative Meeting in Brunswick.

A meeting of the Conservatives of Brunswick county will be held at the Court House, in Smithville, on Monday evening, March 2d (Court week), at 7½ o'clock.

A number of speakers will address the meeting.

MANY CITIZENS.

Wilmington Wholesale Prices Current.

BEESWAX, ℔	33 @ 35	LIME, ₱ bbl.	0 00 @ 0 00
BEEF CATTLE, ₱ 100 lbs.	8 00 @12 00	From store	0 00 @ 1 90
BRICKS, ₱ M.	10 00 @15 00	MOLASSES, ₱ gallon,	
BARRELS, Sp'ts T., each.		Cuba, hhds.	45 @ 46
2nd hand	2 25 @ 3 25	do bbls.	00 @ 50
New	3 25 @ 3 75	Sugar house	42½ @ 45
CANDLES, ₱ ℔.,		do bbls.	00 @ 45
Tallow	18 @ 20	Syrup, bbls.	60 @ 1 00
Adamantine	22 @ 23	NAVAL STORES,	
Sperm	50 @ 55	Turpentine ₱ 280 lbs.	
COFFEE, ₱ ℔.,		Virgin	0 00 @ 3 60
Java	38 @ 40	Yellow dip	0 00 @ 3 60
Laguayra	28 @ 30	Hard	0 00 @ 2 30
Rio	21 @ 25	Tar, ₱ bbl.	0 00 @ 2 35
St. Domingo	28 @ 30	Tar, in ord'r	0 00 @ 2 50
COTTON, ₱ ℔.,		Pitch, City	2 75 @ 3 00
Ord. to Mid'g	19 @ 20¾	Rosin, pale	4 00 @ 4 37½
Strict Mid'g	20¾ @ 21	do No. 1	3 00 @ 3 75
COTTON BAGGING,		do No. 2	2 75 @ 2 87½
Gunny, ₱ yd	22 @ 24	do No. 3	2 50 @ 2 60
Dundee	26 @ 28	Spirits Turpentine,	
Rope, ₱ ℔.	8 @ 14	₱ gal.	00 @ 67½
CORN MEAL, ₱ bushel	1 60 @ 1 65	NAILS, ₱ ℔.,	
DOMESTICS,		Cut	6 00 @ 7 00
Sheeting, ₱ yard	12 @ 14	OILS, ₱ gallon,	
Yarn, ₱ 5 lb	1 50 @ 1 60	Sperm	0 00 @ 3 00
FEATHERS, ₱ ℔.	65 @ 75	Linseed	1 50 @ 1 60
FISH, ₱ bbl.,		Machinery	2 00 @ 2 50
Mackerel,		Kerosene	55 @ 60
No. 1	20 00 @21 00	PEA NUTS,	2 00 @ 2 75
No. 2	16 00 @18 00	POTATOES,	
No. 3	15 00 @16 00	Sweet, bush	1 25 @ 1 40
Mullets	8 00 @ 9 00	Irish, ₱ bbl	4 50 @ 5 50
Herring,		PROVISIONS, ₱ ℔.,	
East	5 00 @ 7 00	N. C. Bacon.	
N.C.roe	00 00 @ 9 00	Hams	19 @ 20
do cut,	0 00 @ 0 00	Middlings	17 @ 18
do gross	6 50 @ 7 00	Shoulders	15 @ 16
Dry Cod, ₱ ℔	9 @ 10	Hog round	17 @ 18
FLOUR, ₱ bbl., Northern		Western Bacon.	
Family	12 50 @17 00	Hams	18 @ 20
Superfine	10 00 @11 00	Middlings	15 @ 15
Fine	9 00 @ 9 50	Shoulders	12½ @ 13
NORTH CAROLINA,		Lard, N. C.	18 @ 19
Family	13 00 @14 00	do North'rn	15 @ 17½
Superfine	12 50 @13 00	Butter, N. C.	30 @ 35
GLUE, ₱ ℔.	20 @ 25	do North'rn	45 @ 55
GUNNY BAGS	30 @ 32	Cheese	15 @ 20
GUANO, Peruvian,		PORK, Northern, ₱ bbl.	
Per ton.	90 00 @ 92 50	City Mess	27 00 @28 00
GRAIN, ₱ bushel,		Thin "	00 00 @26 00
Corn	1 40 @ 1 45	Prime,	00 00 @25 00
Oats	95 @ 1 10	Rump	00 00 @00 00
Peas, Cow	1 50 @ 1 75	SALT,	
Rice, rough	0 00 @ 1 50	Alum, bush.	0 50 @ 60
Carolina	11½ @ 12	Liverpool, sack, ground.	
East India	00 @ 00	cargo	0 00 @ 0 00
HIDES, ₱ ℔.,		from store	2 20 @ 2 25
Green	5 @ 8	American	0 00 @ 1 00
Dry	11 @ 14	SUGAR, ₱ ℔.,	
HAY, ₱ 100 lbs.,		Cuba	12½ @ 13
Eastern	1 35 @ 1 50	Porto Rico	14 @ 15
Northern	1 25 @ 1 40	C.	15½ @ 16½
IRON, ₱ ℔.,		B.	16½ @ 17
English, ass'd	8 @ 10	A.	00 @ 17½
American, ref.	0 @ 10	Crushed	00 @ 18½
American, sheer	9 @ 10	SOAP, ₱ ℔.	
Swede	10 @ 12	Northern,	7 @ 11
HOOP, ₱ ton.	150 00@000 00	Wilmington,	
LIQUORS, ₱ gal., (dom.)		Ext. Family	10½ @ 11
Whiskey,		Family	10 @ 10
Bourbon	2 00 @ 4 00	Chemical,	9½ @ 10
N. E. Rum	3 00 @ 4 00	Pale	7½ @ 8
Gin	4 00 @ 7 00	SHINGLES, ₱ M.,	
Brandy	4 00 @ 9 00	Contract	3 50 @ 4 00
LUMBER, (River,		Common	2 00 @ 3 00
Fl'r Bds.	14 00 @18 00	STAVES, ₱ M.,	
Wide do	10 00 @12 00	W. O. bbl	00 00 @00 00
Scantling	8 00 @10 00	R. O. hhd	00 00 @00 00
		TIMBER, ₱ M.,	
		Shipping	00 00 @11 00
		Mill, prime	8 50 @ 9 50
		Mill Fair	7 50 @ 8 00
		Mill, inferior to ord	5 00 @ 7 00
		TALLOW, ℔	10 @ 11

REVIEW
OF THE
WILMINGTON MARKETS
FOR THE
WEEK ENDING THURSDAY,
February 27, 1868.

TURPENTINE.—The market for this article ruled quite firm during the early part of the week, and a shade advance was obtained on former figures up to the close of Tuesday's transactions. On Wednesday, however, the market opened rather dull, and during the day prices declined, with sales at $3 55 for soft, and $2 30 for hard, ₱ 280 lbs. To-day (Thursday) the price is a shade better, and sales made at $3 60 for soft and $2 30 for hard, at which figures it closes steady. The recent freshet has enabled parcels from above tide-way to reach market more freely, and in consequence the arrivals have been quite heavy, reaching 6,199 bbls., which sold as follows:

	Bbls.	Soft	Hard
Friday	315	$3 75	$2 50
Saturday	853	3 75	2 50
Monday	2,921	3 85	2 50
Tuesday	800	3 85	2 50
Wednesday	560	3 55	2 30
Thursday	750	3 60	2 30

SPIRITS TURPENTINE.—The market on Friday last opened with an active demand for this article, and the price advanced 5 cents, all that could be reached finding ready sale at 65 cents. This figure ruled throughout Saturday, but owing to the small quantity offering the transactions were limited. On Monday there was an improved enquiry from shippers, which caused a further advance of 2½@5 cents, with sales at 67½@70 cents—closing at highest figure. On Tuesday there was nothing done in the way of sales, buyers being unwilling to operate further unless at lower figures, which factors were not disposed to accede to. The advices from abroad have proven unfavorable since Monday, and the market has since ruled quiet; factors, however, show no disposition to accept a concession in price at present, and are generally holding at 70 cents, with an unusually light stock in first hands. The sales for the week are as follows:

Friday	81 bbls. at 65 cents	₱ gallon.	
Saturday	114	" " 65	" " "
Monday	80	" " 67½	" " "

THE WILMINGTON JOURNAL

WILMINGTON, N. C.,

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 22, 1868.

The Canvass in North Carolina.

It is thought that the Convention, so-called, will adjourn about the middle of March, if the hungry delegates can be forced away from the eight dollars *per diem* so soon, and that the election will be appointed for as early a day thereafter as the notification of the time and the names of the candidates can be made from one end of the State to the other. Certainly not longer than thirty days will elapse between the adjournment of the Radical conclave and the day of the election.

In view of the shortness of the time and the vast importance of the issues, some of our State cotemporaries are advising the appointment of State canvassers in addition to those for the several counties. We do not see the necessity of this course. All such matters were taken under advisement by the late Conservative Convention, and we believe that a faithful compliance with the Plan of Organization then adopted, will best insure success in the approaching canvass. To appoint certain gentlemen for the purpose of making a canvass of the State, would involve them in an expense which but few are able to bear, and would have the tendency of keeping out of the field a number of gentlemen other than those appointed, who have expressed a willingness and are ready to take part in the canvass. In the contest into which we are to enter *every white man, who has any care for his race and the welfare of his State*, must regard himself as an appointed canvasser and use every effort necessary to insure a full and united vote against the nefarious and destructive principles and men that will be attempted to be fastened upon our good old State.

Governor Bragg, Chairman of the State Conservative Executive Committee, has called a meeting of the Committee on the 28th inst. The purpose of the call is to prepare for the canvass. The Radical Nominating Convention is to meet in Raleigh on the 26th instant, and will formally put in nomination the candidates for the numerous offices which the Constitutional Convention, so-called, will provide to be elected by the popular vote. The Executive Committee of the Conservative party, acting under the authority vested in them by a resolution of the Conservative Convention, will of course nominate candidates also. In this manner we will have regularly appointed canvassers in abundance. We will have a candidate for Governor, Lieutenant Governor, Secretary of State, Treasurer, Auditor, Superintendent of Public Instruction, Superintendent of Public Works, Supreme Court Judges, three or five in number, Superior Court Judges, ten in number. There will be seven candidates for Congress, and one hundred and seventy candidates for the Legislature, besides the almost innumerable candidates for the various county offices, in addition to the four hundred and forty-five county canvassers authorized under the Plan of Organization.

If these men do their duty, and no one should permit his name to be used in connection with any office unless he will devote his time and talents to the furtherance of the success of the party, we submit that the people of North Carolina will be aroused to an extent never before witnessed in the history of the State.

We are not to be understood as objecting to the distinguished gentlemen named as State canvassers appearing before the people and frequently too. We take it for granted that during the canvass Graham, Bragg, Vance, Manly, Howard, Smith, Ransom, Scales, Ashe, and our own Davis, Person, Cowan, Strange and Hall, and other equally well known, popular and eloquent gentlemen, will do all within their power to arouse our people to action. The questions to be settled are so vital that we feel, without consulting with these gentlemen, authorized to say that any of them will gladly address their fellow-citizens at any point their services may be desired. None will stand back in this crisis. No man is at liberty to deny his time or talents for the common weal, especially those who, in times past, have been honored by the people of the State, and who now have their confidence.

Rear Admiral H. H. Bell.

By telegraph the death is announced of Rear Admiral Henry Haywood Bell, commanding the United States Asiatic squadron. He, with a boat's crew of the men of the Flag Ship *Hartford*, was drowned while crossing the bar at the mouth of the Osaka, Japan, on the 11th of January last. Admiral Bell was born in this State, and was appointed to the navy on the 4th of August, 1823. He was promoted regularly until he reached the high rank which he held at the time of his death. He won his promotion from Fleet Captain to that of Commodore for the conspicuous services he bore during the successful attack upon New Orleans in 1862.

Admiral Bell is nearly related to the Haywood family of this State, and was a cousin of the late Hon. W. S. Ashe, of this city. We believe he was the only North Carolinian remaining in the naval service of the United States. He is spoken of as a fine officer, and an exemplary gentleman. Several years previous to the war he visited Raleigh to see his numerous relations in that city, but since the struggle he never returned to his native State, from which he was probably alienated in sympathy and feeling by the events of the past few years.

Grand Ratification Meeting in Halifax.

On the 17th instant, one of the largest and most enthusiastic meetings ever held in the county met at the Court House in Halifax, for the purpose of ratifying the proceedings of the Conservative Convention. Col. F. M. Parker presided, and Mr. Jordan Stone was Secretary. The meeting was addressed by Gen. M. W. Ransom, Edward Conigland, Esq., Mr. R. H. Smith, Judge Biggs, and Col. W. A. Jenkins.

A thorough organization was effected under the plan of the Convention, and an efficient County Committee appointed. In the course of his remarks Mr. Conigland stated that he intended to make a thorough canvass of the county previous to the election. This is as it should be. When such able men as Mr. Conigland, who has never entered into active political contests, throws aside the habits of a lifetime, we feel that North Carolina's noblest and best sons are arousing to the full importance of the work before them. In every county, in every Captain's district, we hope the foremost men will lend their influence and devote their time to the awakening of our people to the importance of the issues involved, and to the direful consequences of defeat. We have only to convince the patriotic citizens of North Carolina of the necessity for victory and it will be assured. To this work, then, let the leading men in every section and in every county devote themselves.

The Issue in North Carolina.

Whatever may be the result of the legislation now being concocted in Congress in regard to the admission of Alabama into the Union, in the face of the legal rejection of the Constitution, it can have no effect upon the issue in this State. During the session of the Conservative Convention in Raleigh, before the result of the Alabama election was known, the policy best to be pursued in this State was fully discussed, and it was decided that we should make a direct issue with the Radicals and attempt to defeat the iniquitous Constitution they were "fixing up" by voting it down rather than to do so indirectly by not voting. Whatever may have been the error in not adopting the non-action policy at the first election, there could be no doubt in regard to the manner of meeting the issues at stake in the next.

Even had there been a disposition to have adopted the same policy which has proved so successful in Alabama, a bill had already passed the lower House of Congress, and was pending in the Senate, requiring only a majority of the votes cast to adopt the Constitutions to be proposed to the Southern States, and it was thought that it would pass. And we have no doubt, even if Alabama is not forced into the Union under the Radical Constitution in direct violation of the Reconstruction Acts, which now seems highly probably, that the Acts will be so amended before any other of the "unreconstructed" States vote that this mode of defeating the Radical plan of Reconstruction will be denied.

It was, therefore, decided that the Conservative people of this State should meet the issue directly, and the party now appeals to every white man in the State to do his whole duty. With thirty thousand white majority, which will probably be increased to forty thousand, the white men of North Carolina will indeed be recreant to their race and inimical to their best interests if they do not defeat the base schemes for negro equality, political and civil, which the emissaries of Radicalism are attempting to force upon us. Men cannot and must not excuse themselves from indifference to interfere in the politics of the country; certainly they must not be frightened by Radical threats. Something more than mere political principles are involved—it is a life and death struggle for every interest and feeling we hold dear—a contest for the future glory and prosperity of the South on the one hand, and its certain ruin and impoverishment on the other. "To this complexion has it come," and when we hear men still express their determination to withhold their aid to their fellow men in this vital contest, we suspect either their patriotism or their courage, or have but little respect for their discretion. Again we tell the people *we cannot afford to be defeated.*

What Radicalism has Done for the South and the Country.

Hon. A. G. G. Thurman, Senator elect from Ohio, in a recent speech at Mansfield, in that State, stated some facts which are well calculated to impress the people of the North with the direct interest which they have in restoring the peace and prosperity of the South. Speaking of the taxes derived from internal revenue alone, Mr. Thurman says that the amount paid by the whole ten of the Southern States for the last fiscal year was $19,683,740; in the same year Ohio paid $25,081,409, so that the Southern States, which formerly paid their full share, if not more, of the taxation of the country, are now so reduced that, in the last fiscal year, Ohio paid $5,387,000 more than them all. Senator Thurman then undertakes to demonstrate that the taxation of the people of this country is far greater than ever was imposed upon any people. In the last fiscal year five hundred millions were collected in taxes by the general government alone. The taxes collected by the States amount to not quite two hundred millions more, making the entire taxation, in round numbers, seven hundred millions of dollars. The gross annual production of the industry of the United States, according to the census of 1860, was two thousand millions of dollars. Allowing for the diminished production of the South, and for increased prices, it is not supposed to be greater now. Thus more than one-third of the whole annual product of the industry of the country is absorbed by taxation. Mr. Thurman then proceeds to inquire what is the net profit of the production of this country, and taking as a standard the average rate at which money is loaned and borrowed, that being a rule laid down by every writer on political economy to obtain an approximate of the net profits of the production of a country, and assuming ten per cent. as the average rate of interest in the United States, which is certainly high enough, the net profits of the industry of the United States, as the productions of agriculture and manufactures of all kinds, would be two hundred millions of dollars. Thus taxation draws from the people five hundred millions a year more than the net profits of all the producing industry of the United States—a great portion of the taxation, however, being upon non-productive employments, those engaged in buying commodities and selling them again, who, though securing large individual gains, do not increase the wealth of the country a particle. Yet the startling fact remains that one-third of the gross annual product of the industry of the country is absorbed by taxation. Such is the price which the people must continue to pay so long as a policy is pursued which renders necessary large military establishments and freedmen's bureaus, and which hands over one of the largest and formerly most productive sections of the country to increasing impoverishment and the prospect of ultimate ruin.

White Men Moving.

In Wake, Wayne, Halifax, Warren, Greene, Chatham, and other counties, enthusiastic meetings have been held to ratify the proceedings of the Raleigh Conservative Convention. In Wayne, Hon. W. T. Dortch presided, and the Hon. S. J. Person and George V. Strong were among the speakers. In Wake, the speech of Hon. D. G. Fowle is most highly spoken of.

Similar meetings will be held throughout the State in every county. Our people are becoming justly alarmed at the dangerous tendencies of Radical legislation. We draw hope from these movements for the defeat of the work of the Convention, so-called. It needs but a full vote to secure success, and if the white men of North Carolina can only be made to appreciate one-half the importance which really exists for them to defeat the Constitution to be presented for their adoption, the vote will be cast and victory won.

Let us all go to work to bring about this result. While those regularly appointed to canvass the counties must do their whole duty, every man who can, must lend his active co-operation. Who can contemplate the evil effects of Radical success; the terrible humiliation and ruin the proscriptive and leveling features of the proposed Constitution will entail, and calmly sit down, inviting, if not directly aiding, all the disasters which must inevitably follow. There are but few, we hope, in all the length and breadth of North Carolina.

The Convention (so-called.)

We devote much space to-day to two days proceedings of the "Convention." There is nothing we can present to our readers more calculated to arouse them from their lethargy than the minutes of the proceedings of that disreputable and disgraceful body, and we hope that all will read the positions taken by the Radicals upon the question of suffrage. These debates and the action of the "Convention" will constitute the best weapons in the hands of the Conservative canvassers to arouse the white people of the State to action and to victory.

Although the Constitution has not yet been "fixed up" to suit their notions, the Radicals have been to work on it sufficiently long to disclose much of the characteristics which will mark that instrument. The *Sentinel* publishes in a concise form what has been done, and what is likely to be done in this regard. It says:

Let it be borne in mind that the Reconstruction Acts of Congress, under which this Convention meets, and from which it derives all its powers, only demand of the Convention that the new Constitution shall admit negro suffrage and the Howard amendment by the Legislature. The Congress, by its Acts, demands for the black race civil rights and suffrage, but it certainly does not require all political franchises for them and social position with the whites. *All these* the new Constitution will claim for the negro race. Let us see what it has already done, looking to this result:

1. The new Bill of Rights will affirm that all men, without distinction of color or condition, are entitled to equality of rights, for the reason, as it is affirmed, that "all men were created equal." That such a position is a fallacy, contradicted by all experience, is palpable to every intelligent mind.

2. The new Constitution will place every negro and white man in the State, twenty-one years of age, in perfect equality, not only as to the right of voting, but as to every other franchise.

3. It will totally discard that essential republican principle, that property has a claim to representation, or a right of protection or guarantee, in the property holding qualification of the representative or public officer.

4. It will create new offices; besides a Governor, a Secretary of State, a Public Treasurer, and a Comptroller or Auditor, it will provide for a Lieutenant Governor, a Superintendent of Public Instruction and a Superintendent of Public Works, all to be elected by the people *for a term of four years*—and *negroes will be eligible to all of these offices*, no property or educational qualification being required of them.

5. It will vastly increase the expense of our Judicial system. It will provide for three or five Supreme Court Judges, as the Legislature may determine, ten Superior Court Judges instead of eight, a Judge for each county in the State, and perhaps for three Equity Judges, all to be elected by the people, requiring no other qualification, we presume, than that the candidate for a Judgeship shall have been licensed to practice law. Negroes, therefore, will be as eligible to Judgeships as white men. Of course, in a number of counties, the negroes can elect Judges of their own color, if they choose.

6. Under the new Constitution negroes will be eligible to both branches of the Legislature and to either branch of Congress.

7. Negroes will also constitute a portion of the State militia and will be eligible to office in the militia, and the Legislature may allow the regiments to be composed alike of black and white men, and blacks to be officers over white men.

8. Negroes will be admitted to the jury box alike with white men, and intermarriage will be allowed between blacks and whites.

9. The question of suffrage has not been determined, except as to allowing every negro, twenty-one years of age, to vote.—But the question of disfranchising white men has not been settled. We believe that a disfranchising clause will be inserted.

10. The question of public education has not yet been publicly discussed and settled, but it is understood that the public schools and the University will be opened alike to negroes and whites, both as teachers and pupils.

11. Finally, the Convention will require equal rights and privileges for the negroes in public Conveyances, Railroads, &c.

We have presented, in the foregoing, what we believe will be the general features of the new Constitution. Some of its provisions will be less offensive, but its offensive features will be sufficiently so to demand of every white man and every colored man who desires the future peace and welfare of the State and people, to vote against it.

The people will be told that its adoption will be essential to Union. But it is a sufficient answer to such a claim, that the Congress has not required such a Constitution the Convention will give us, in order to restoration. We are for the Union, under the Constitution of the United States, but such a State Constitution as the Convention proposes to give us, will destroy all concord and harmony among ourselves, and of course alienate one party or the other from the National government.

Catholic Bishop for North Carolina.

An official paragraph in the Baltimore *Catholic Mirror* announces that all the Acts and Decrees of the Council of Catholic Prelates, held at Baltimore in October, 1866, have been approved and confirmed in Rome. The appointments then made to vacant, or newly erected Episcopal Sees, have been ratified in like manner.

Of vacant Bishopricks there were only three, Buffalo, Louisville and Erie, (Pa.) The newly erected are twelve in number, Columbus, (Ohio), Rochester, (N. Y.), Wilmington, (Del.), Scranton and Harrisburg, (Pa.), St. Joseph's, (Mo.), Green Bay and La Crosse, (Wis.), besides North Carolina, and the Territories of Colorado, Idaho and Montana. The four last are technically styled Vicariates, not Sees, because the incumbent, though invested with full Episcopal powers, does not derive his title from any particular city of his Diocese, and may establish his residence wherever it pleases him, in any place of his jurisdiction.

The Bishop elect of North Carolina is the Rt. Rev. Jas. Gibbons, D.D., hitherto Secretary of the Archbishoprick of Baltimore, and one of the Clergy attached to the Cathedral of that City. Dr. Gibbons is a native of Baltimore, and has the reputation of good abilities, refined manners and eloquence in the pulpit. He is in the prime of life, being not more than thirty-three years of age. His talents, his amiable disposition and untiring zeal, eminently fit him for the field of his future labors.

STATE NEWS.

Convention Incidents.—We give a few incidents of the Convention, so-called, collected from our Raleigh cotemporaries, *The Carolinian* and *The Sentinel*:

A COWARDLY ASSAULT.

We are informed that Assistant Sergeant-at-Arms Ball, made a cowardly assault upon a one-armed man at the Capitol last night, because forsooth he dared to express his opinion of the body of which Ball is a distinguished ornament.

DADDY COWLES.

The President of the so-called descended from the wool sack, on yesterday, and thus lectured ye "loi-il:" How could the ladies be expected to grace the body with their presence, if divorce cases, involving rather smutty details, were discussed on the floor? True, but very, very few had honored them with their smiles, as yet, but then who knew but that, in the remote contingency of an infinitessimal possibility, some of them *might?* Now Mr. Cowles, herein, was guilty of a want of gallantry in overlooking the fact that numbers of the "maidens of dusky hue" have repeatedly "graced" the galleries with their shining presence.

Mr. Cowles assumed the privilege of grand Lecturer, on the ground that, though a young man, he was *ex officio*, as it were, *the father of the Convention.* Well, he has a shabby and motley offspring, and one which reflects no credit on its paternal ancestor. Let the children henceforth be called, however, by the patronymic. In calling the roll, let it be done thusly: J. C. Abbott *Cowles;* B. Laflin *Cowles;* Cuffee Mayo *Cowles;* Plymouth-Rock-Through-Much-Tribulation Ashley *Cowles;* Jeemes Henry Harris Cowles, and so on *down* to Tourgee *Cowles!*

A FRENCH-MAN ON THE RAMPAGE.

During the debate on the everlasting suffrage question, on Tuesday night, one of the French mongrels—the one with the big feet, from Bladen—in the cut and dried remarks, said: "As for Mr. Graham's threats of last night, he would hurl back such threats in their teeth, and though he was morally opposed to fighting, yet, if the worst should go to the worst, they (the congous and Frenches) were ready, and may God have mercy on their (the white folks') souls."

To a young man from the country, the above would certainly sound very bellicose, warlike and pugnacious, but, having read the story of the ass in the lion's skin, we are not to be fooled by your painted mule, Mr. French; besides, we do not forget the historical fact, that there were brave men before Agamemnon. Try again, sonny!

SHAKER ABBOTT'S IDEA.

The Shaker-General Abbott, of N. Hampshire, out-herods Herod in his radical niggerism. In his empty, swaggering declamation on the suffrage question yesterday, he expressed the following sentiments, which, by the way, are borrowed from, what our cotemporary of the Wilson Plain-dealer aptly terms, "*Reverend* S. F. Waldro, a devil-anointed, pulpit-banger and blatant pimp of radical morality:"

These subjugated Southern traitors have no more right to apply their own peculiar civil or moral ideas than they have to use their physical implements of war.

Conquered in one thing they are conquered in everything, and hence, for the future, these rebels ought to be like children, "seen but not heard,' in all moral and political matters.

We do not pretend to quote the exact language of the nigger-loving New Hampshire Quaker, but his views as announced in the Konvenshun yesterday are so identical with those of the saintly (?) Waldro, that we have chosen to make our report of his speech from the printed sermon of the latter, rather than from our crude reportorial notes taken "under the table."

And, fellow-citizens of the Cape Fear District, this self-same Abbott is the man whom the mongrels at the capitol have selected to represent you in the U. S. Congress. [Provided you elect him.] White men of the Cape Fear! mark him—mark Abbott well.

DIVORCES.

Up to the present time there have been fewer divorces granted in the State of North Carolina, perhaps, than in any other State in or out of the Union. Since the present so-called Convention has been in session, there have been a great many petitions for divorces. Hitherto such *applications*, even, have not been made, in any number, to our Courts and legislative bodies, for the reason that those who might have desired to make them knew they would receive no favor or consideration. It is but natural that they should rush, with their petitions, into the present "Mongrel." A set of men who have so little respect for the martial relation as to license marriage between negroes and whites, will not hesitate to disrupt the tie upon whatever pretext. No wonder Mr. President Cowles said he was *ashamed* of them.

North Carolina Railroad.—From a condensed exhibit of the North Carolina Railroad Company for seven months, ending 31st December, 1867, published by the Secretary, F. A. Stagg, Esq., we learn that the net income of the Road was $134,081 54. Considering the severity of the times, this is doing finely. At this rate, the net income of the Road will be $200,000, and over for the year. But for the fact that all this must go to meet back debts, the Road could make a respectable dividend.

Ral. *Sentinel.*

For the Journal.

Richlands, N. C., Feb. 18, 1868.

To Editors Wilmington Journal:

I notice in your Weekly the names of the canvassers for Onslow county wrong. The following are the names:

John H. Shackelford.
H. H. Sandlin,
W. P. Ward,
M. L. F. Rhedd,
E. W. Fonville.

Please make the above correction and oblige,

Respectfully,

Delegate.

THE PRESIDENT vs. STANTON.

THE CONSTITUTION vs. CONGRESS.

On the 21st instant, the Speaker caused to be read a letter from Secretary Stanton, informing the House that the President had issued an order removing him from office and desiring him to transfer the Department to Brevet Major General Lorenzo Thomas, Adjutant General of the Army, who had been appointed Secretary of War *ad interim.*

General Thomas had officially accepted the appointment.

The following is the President's order for the removal of Stanton:

Executive Mansion,
Washington, D. C., Feb. 21, 1868.

Sir: By virtue of power and authority vested in me as President, by the Constitution and laws of the United States, you are hereby removed from office as Secretary of the Department of War and your functions as such will terminate upon the receipt of this communication. You will transfer to Brevet Major General Lorenzo Thomas, Adjutant General of the army, who has this day been authorized and empowered to act as Secretary of War, *ad interim*, all records, books, papers, and other public property now in your custody and charge.

Respectfully yours,

Andrew Johnson, President.

To Hon. Edwin M. Stanton,
Washington, D. C.

Articles of impeachment were immediately presented by Mr. Covode, of Pennsylvania, and referred to the Reconstruction Committee. The subsequent history of this highly important imbroglio is found in the following telegrams:

FROM WASHINGTON.

THE PRESIDENT AND STANTON!

GRANT GUARDS THE WAR DEPARTMENT!

STANTON STILL BEHIND HIS ENTRENCHMENTS!!

IMPEACHMENT.

THOS. EWING TO BE SECRETARY OF WAR!

Washington, D. C., Feb. 22—Noon.

The Senate, after seven hours executive session, resolved that the President had no right to remove Stanton.

Mr Stevens reported the following from the Reconstruction Committee.

Resolved, That Andrew Johnson, President of the United States, be impeached of high crimes and misdemeanors in office.

A general debate ensued, when the House adjourned at 5.30 to 7.30.

A vote will be taken on Monday at 5 o'clock.

Only Brooks and Beck voted against the impeachment resolutions in the Reconstruction Committee.

At 8 o'clock this morning General Thomas was arrested on a warrant issued by Judge Carter, on the affidavit of Secretary Stanton, for violation of the 5th section of the Tenure-of-Office Act.

Both Houses met for business this morning.—The excitement is intense.

General Thomas has been released on giving bail for five thousand dollars for his appearance on Wednesday.

Stanton camped in the War Office last night and is still in possession.

General Sherman's letter to the President, of January 18th, was published to-day. Alluding to the contemplated efforts of himself and Grant to induce Stanton to resign, says if he (Stanton) will not resign it will be time to contrive ulterior measures. Sherman deprecates precipitation.

The Committee on Reconstruction decided to-day by a vote of seven (Republicans) to two (Democrats) to prefer articles of impeachment against the President for his conduct respecting the removal of Stanton.

After his release from custody Adjutant General Thomas found his door locked. Stanton had the key. General Thomas went to Stanton's office, finding Stanton, ten members of Congress and Generals Grant, Dent and Howard. Sentinels guarded each door. Visitors were only admitted after their cards had been inspected. Several cards were presented for General Thomas, but admission was refused.

Colonel Moore, the President's Private Secretary, called to see General Thomas, but admission was refused.

General Thomas remained in Stanton's room until 2½ o'clock when he left the War building.

During the interview Mr. Stanton notified Gen. Thomas that he would not give up the Secretaryship, or obey Thomas as Secretary of War, and that he had instructed all employees of the Department not to obey Gen. Thomas. At 2 o'clock Gen. Thomas had a prolonged interview with the President, during which the President said that he desired to test the matter legally in the Courts.

The debate is progressing with spirit but dignity, and the excitement is subsiding. The President will take no arbitrary measures. He is content with the present shape of affairs. The matter is now with the Courts.

The President's impeachment by the House is undoubted.

Washington, D. C., Feb. 23.

Stanton has been lodging in the War Department since last Friday. He was recommended to this course by Congressmen who apprehended that an attempt would be made to take possession of the office by force.

General Grant yesterday detailed Col. Carr, (a member of General Emory's Staff,) to remain at the War Office, and the Guards have been doubled.

Large numbers of the members of Congress called on Stanton to-day, and held long conversations with him. They assured him of the support of all the Republican members.—Their party would act as a unit in both Houses, and now that impeachment was fairly inaugurated, there would be no faltering until the matter is completed.

After the impeachment resolution passes the House to-morrow, Stanton will go home, as his friends think after that event the President will not venture on aggressive measures.

It is ascertained that Generals Grant and Emory—the latter commanding the Department of Washington—will obey no orders of the President that conflict with the Tenure of Office Act, or the expressed will of the Senate. It has not transpired, however, that the President has issued, or intends to issue, such orders.

In the whole matter so far, the President has confined himself to civil proceedings, and has directed that to-morrow (Monday) an application be made to the Supreme Court for a *quo warranto* against Stanton.

The President has nominated Hon. Thomas Ewing, of Ohio, as Secretary of War.

The excitement to-day has been great, but events have made no progress, and this evening the town is toning down. The more wild of the Radicals assure circles of listeners that ten days will do the work but with each hour they are becoming less confident.

The House adjourned last night at 11:30, and meets to-morrow at 10 o'clock.

Nearly all the Democratic members, Mr. Seward and many prominent citizens and strangers, called on the President to-day. The excitement which prevails in other circles is not perceptible at the White House.

Special telegram to the Richmond Dispatch.

Interview Between the President and the Committee of the Baltimore Common Council.

Washington, Feb. 19.—At 11 o'clock this moring a committee of the two branches of City Council of Baltimore, accompanied by Honorable Charles E. Phelps, member of Congress from Baltimore visited the Executive mansion for the purpose and presented the President with the preamble and resolutions adopted by the Baltimore Council endorsing the wise, constitutional administration of the President, and offering to him their hearty co-operation in his endeavors to maintain the constitutional government of the country. The resolutions also extend to him an invitation to visit the city of Baltimore at his earliest convenience, tendering to him the freedom of the city and the hospitality of its citizens and corporate authorities whenever he honors them with a visit. General Phelps introduced each member of the committee to the Chief Magistrate. Mr. Henry Duvall, on the part of the committee, presented the President with the official copy of the preamble and resolutions, with a few appropriate remarks. Mr. Duvall said he considered it the proudest moment of his life to have the honor of performing the duty in which he was then engaged. The City Councils of Baltimore, the corporate representatives of a large and important commercial city, had unanimously passed resolutions which it was his proud honor to deliver to the President, as chairman of the committee who were chosen to convey this expression of feeling of the people of Baltimore as to the noble course that had been fearlessly pursued by the Chief Magistrate of the country during many severe trials through which he had had to pass.—The resolutions were a true type of the sense of the people of Baltimore on the subject. They fully endorse the wise, constitutional policy of the President. The city was now in the hands of the true Union men. Fanaticism had been made to bury its head in his State and the speaker predicted that such would be its fate throughout the entire country. The action of the Council who were in office when the President passed through Baltimore last year met with the indignant disapproval of nine-tenths of her citizens. The reception given to the Chief Magistrate by the merchants and citizens on his return to Washington through Baltimore was a true expression of the feeling of her people. Mr. Duvall further said that in continuation of his fearless administration of laws under the Constitution the President might feel assured of the utmost support of the people whom the speaker and the rest of the committee represented. He was delighted to see the Chief Magistrate appearing in such excellent health, and prayed that Divine Providence would continue to shower its blessings upon him, the fitting representative of a free people.

The President then returned his profound thanks for the expression of the approval of the Council of the city of Baltimore of his official conduct as chief executive officer of the nation. This manifestation of confidence and respect from the citizens of Baltimore was at this time peculiarly acceptable and gratifying. Our country, said he, is now in the midst of grave peril, and our free institutions are more endangered now than when, during the rebellion, our armies were struggling for the Republic in the field. In this critical condition of public affairs it behooves every citizen who feels an interest in the preservation of constitutional liberty to consider that ours is a government of law, and to require of our legislators that when a great measure is proposed the first inquiry shall be, Does it conform to the Constitution which they have solemnly sworn to support? It would be the greatest of victories if the public mind, carried back within the pale of the Constitution, would demand that all legislation should be strictly tested by the organic law. The idea that the Constitution no longer exists, or that although existing, laws must be made outside of its provisions, must ultimately lead us to despotism and tyranny. If the judicial and executive branches are to be broken down, and the Government resolved into and placed under the control of the legislative department; if the rights, the interests, and the destinies of this great country are to be transferred to the heads of a few whose whole aim is to be the measurers of their power, our republican institutions will soon yield to the most absolute despotism ever witnessed by the world. He added, the struggle in which I have been compelled to engage has not been for my own aggrandizement. My sole aim has been to bring back the Government to the plain principles of the Constitution; and if I could accomplish that object, the measure of my ambition would indeed be filled to overflowing. That great end achieved, it would be the highest pleasure of my life, making my reverence to the people, and giving my thanks to Heaven, to yield my aspirations to others. I repeat, that the encouragement given me on this occasion is very acceptable. The stoutest heart, when surrounded by doubts and menaced with perils, needs countenance and support. The kind expressions of approval of the City Council of Baltimore—sincerely appreciated—will be remembered with gratitude as long as life shall last.

At the conclusion of the President's remarks, Mr. Crout, one of the committee, arose, and, as a member of the City Council and a citizen of Baltimore and Maryland, made some appropriate and eloquent remarks highly complimentary to the President. The committee then withdrew, all expressing themselves highly delighted with their pleasant interview with the President.

B. Conley, Pardon Committeeman for the Fifth Congressional District of Georgia, advertises for persons desirous of being relieved from their political disabilities to make application through him. Isn't this a rich exhibition for a "free and equal" country? Of course, *he* is to be the judge whether the applicant ought to be relieved. According to all former precedents, the Executive of a State exercised the pardoning power. Now committeemen of a political party control it, and make fidelity to the Radical party the test of worthiness!

We believe that G. W. Ashburn is the Radical committeeman appointed to peddle out pardons for this Congressional District. Enough said!—Columbus (Ga.,) *Enquirer*, Feb. 15th.

Miserable Condition of the Southern Negroes.

In the United States Senate, the other day, our Washington dispatches tell us, "Mr. Trumbull presented the petition of colored citizens of North Carolina, setting forth their miserable condition, and asking to be sent to Liberia." We are not told anything as to the views of the Radical Senators touching this petition, but we know as well what those views are as if we had heard an expression of opinion from each one of them. They are opposed to the emigration of the North Carolina negroes, or the negroes of any other Southern State, to another country. The policy of the Radical party contemplates that the negroes shall remain where they are. If it were possible for them, by a mere act of volition, and without its costing the government a dollar, to transport every black man, woman and child in the South to Liberia, or some other point on the African coast, we have no idea such men as Sumner, Wade, Chandler and Wilson would do it. The negro is their political capital. He is their stock in trade. He is their hope and dependence, the mainstay of their party power.

We do not doubt that the "condition" of "the colored citizens of North Carolina" is "miserable" in the extreme, and we think them quite right in wanting to be sent to Liberia. In their native Africa they could at least relapse into the inevitable barbarism of their race at leisure, and in their own way, whilst under Radical management in this country they are hurried on to wretchedness and ruin with frightful velocity. But what do Radical politicians care for the "miserable condition" to which their policy has reduced the North Carolina negroes—and the negroes of the entire South, as for that matter—if that policy subserves their own interests? The good of the black man never entered in the slightest degree into their calculations. True, they made a great pretence of humanity, and uttered a great deal of claptrap about universal freedom till they succeeded in getting the slave liberated, but their motive in all this was entirely selfish and was not even redeemed by a mistaken philanthropy. For a time Sambo was used by the Abolitionists as a hobby upon which to ride into office. Now he is employed by the Radicals as the chief motive power of their political machinery.

What, we repeat, do Radical politicians care for "the miserable condition" of the Southern negroes if the policy that has produced that condition is necessary to the party? Radical legislation has converted the South, once so productive and prosperous, into a desolation, where "the condition" of the residents cannot fail to be "miserable." The whites are tyranized over and subjected to the political domination of their late slaves, whilst the blacks find that with them the service of Radicalism leads to suffering and starvation. Rarely has so great and disastrous a change been effected in so brief a period. But though these are things not to be misunderstood, do we have a hint from any of the Radical Congressmen about the abandonment of the reconstruction usurpation. Not at all. On the contrary that diabolical and ruinous scheme is insisted upon by them and will be carried out if within the bounds of possibility.—From Radical Congressmen and Radical politicians the whites of the South have nothing to hope, and the negroes no prospect of relief from the "miserable condition" to which they are reduced.

We would to Heaven the petition of "the colored citizens of North Carolina" could be granted, not for themselves only, but for their whole race now in the United States. Were it at all practicable to transport every individual of them to a land between which and ours an ocean rolls it would be a most happy solution of a most difficult problem.

If there are really persons so stupid as to imagine the present situation of negroes in reconstructed States preferable, even so far as they are concerned, to what it was, let them be undeceived. The North Carolina negroes are not alone in the desire to flee from the troubles and misery with which Radicalism has environed them. We have not a doubt that that desire is common to a large majority of the negroes throughout the Southern States. From the effects of Radical rule, even they find it necessary, if possible, to escape. One day this week Senator Oscar Turner represented to the State Senate that there was much complaint among his constituents, occasioned by the numbers of negroes crossing over from Tennessee and locating among them; and on his motion, an appropriate committee was intrusted with the work of devising, if practicable, some mode of protecting our citizens from these undesirable inroads.—Kentucky is already suffering from the exodus, and other States will suffer also.

Louisville *Courier* 13th.

From the London Times, Jan. 29th.

British Opinion of Congressional Proceedings and of the Prospects of Reconstruction.

The accusers of the present legislative body in America have latterly arisen within the ranks of the party which it specially represents. It is no longer the Democrats or the Southern politicians who complain and protest. They seem to be very well content with what is going on. Their adversaries are making their way smoother for them than it has been for some years past. Not in the flush of victory, but rather under the impulse of a desire to finish their work while time is still left them, the Republicans are forcing acts through Congress which their own supporters out of doors denounce as revolutionary. Congress is changing the framework of the government so fast that people are beginning to inquire whether there is such a thing as the constitution remaining in the country. The waters are rising with unexampled rapidity, and even the Radicals would like to find some sure spot of dry land to stand upon. One step has forced on another, until nothing of the government appears likely to remain but the Legislative Department. * * * * The first Reconstruction act was severe, but the people assented to it because they ended a very troublesome difficulty. Then came a supplement. That was objectionable, too; but still little was said, for it was hoped that that now, at least, congress knew what it was about. At last, it thought, everything is settled.—eight or nine months have passed and a measure which practically repeals the other two acts is confidently brought forward as the one thing needful to restore peace, happiness and prosperity to the country.—General Grant may make a very wise and prudent "Dictator"—for so the Radical journals already call him. But this "institutio" is new in America, and some who value the former principles of the government chafe at its introduction. We are inclined to believe that the South will be better off under one military Governor than under five, although there is nothing to prevent Congress *putting* a very different man from General Grant in that position to-morrow. "But how long will it be before another law supersedes the new one? "What does Congress mean to do with the South finally?" These are questions which are never put without injury to the governing party. Already their own journals declare that they are placing the Presidential election in jeopardy. Congress could scarcely do better for the Republicans than separate at once and not meet again until after the 8th of next November. On that day the long struggle will be decided for or against them, and prudent tactics would incline the leaders to send their forces home before they do mischief which there will not be time to repair.

The poet Whittier has nearly recovered from his recent severe illness.